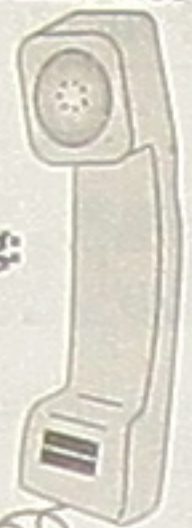


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STAR WARS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Twenty years after its premiere release, the Star Wars trilogy returns to the screen better than ever...page 12

STATE LEGISLATURE

University status could enhance credibility



Burton

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo —

The city of Joplin may be getting its own university. Actually, Missouri Southern State College could evolve into Missouri Southern State University.

"We want to simply enhance the credibility of

Missouri Southern," said Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin). "The perception is that there is more credibility with a university than with a college."

Burton is drafting a bill he plans to submit within the next few weeks. The bill calls for Southern and Missouri Western to become universities, he said.

"Traditionally there have been concerns with many people that when a college wants to change

its name to university it is because it wants to implement its own graduate programs," said College President Julio Leon. "Some people see that as a threat to the efficiency of our undergraduate programs. But now with the blueprint that has been developed by the CBHE (Coordinating Board for Higher Education) for Missouri Southern, we have been designated as an undergraduate institution only."

The possibility of Southern wanting its own master's program seems to be a main concern in the General Assembly, and Burton believes that is why the name has never been changed. Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) said he would completely support any action Burton presented, but he referred to the CBHE's recommendation that

TURN TO UNIVERSITY, PAGE 11

STUDENT LIFE BEAT

“I love the pep band. They do more than just play catchy music.”



Student Life Beat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

(From left to right) Ray St. Ledger, Abel Stuart, Lance Burnett, and Robert Vice cheer during the Lions basketball game Monday.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/
The Chart

Blaring tunes, goofy antics add fun dimension to games

By SCOTT FRANCIS
STAFF WRITER



Pep band member Wesley Smith
JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Before any other fans show up, they're already in place and cheering. After everyone else is long gone, they're just getting ready to leave.

They lead the crowd in cheering, bench stomping, finger waving, and team supporting.

They are responsible, in large part, for the high excitement level of Lions home basketball games. They are the Lion Pride Pep Band, more commonly known as the pep band.

Forty-five minutes before the game gets under way, band members are setting up shop in their customary corner in the northwest end of Young Gymnasium. As bands go, their numbers are relatively small, but they make a lot of noise, as any regular attendee of Missouri Southern basketball can tell you.

"I love the pep band," said Liliana Valencia, junior music education and theatre major. "They do more than just play catchy music; they get themselves and everyone else fired up. Attitude is everything — when the crowd's excited, the team gets excited too, and that makes them play better."

Excitement is certainly the name of the game for band members, who spend most of their time yelling and cheering when they're not playing.

"They're kind of like assistant cheerleaders," said Hollie Townley, sophomore biology major. "They're always the first part of the crowd to join the cheerleaders and mascots in a new cheer."

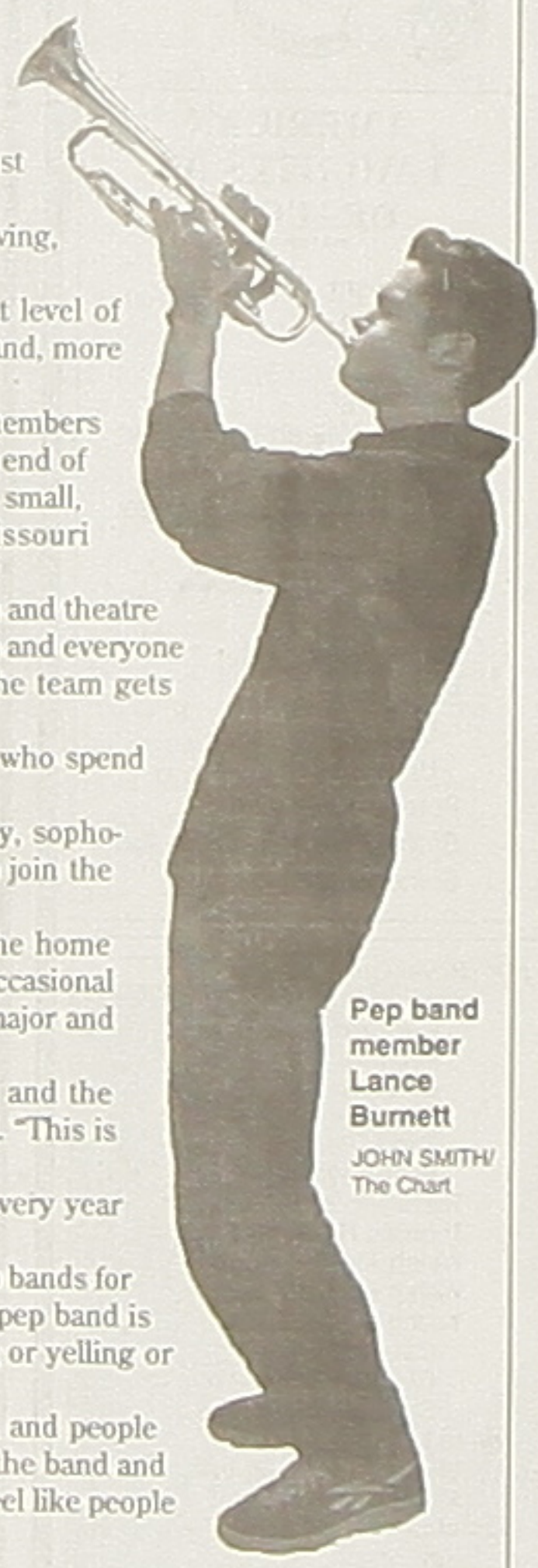
Band members are anything but restrained in their support of the home team. New cheers frequently originate with the band during the occasional silent moment, said Michael Butler, sophomore computer science major and brass player.

"We just let ourselves get crazy and really hyped up at games, and the teams and the crowd both really seem to pick up on that," he said. "This is definitely the best place in the gym to sit."

Dr. Phil Wise, assistant professor of music, conducts auditions every year for those interested in joining the band.

"I've been here for two years now, but I've been involved with pep bands for 15 years in various locations," he said. "The main function of the pep band is to support the teams, however we can do it. Whether it's playing or yelling or cheering, we're here to get the crowd excited."

"The band makes a big difference in the crowd's attitude, and people notice that. I have received many positive comments about the band and its members after almost every game. It really makes you feel like people notice and appreciate what you do."



Pep band member Lance Burnett
JOHN SMITH/
The Chart

INTERNATIONAL MISSION

College to incorporate Chinese theme in fall

Leon says programs will include lectures, films, entertainment

INTERNATIONAL MISSION

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Naming fall semesters after specific countries or regions is the newest aspect of Missouri Southern's international mission.

College President Julio Leon said Southern will try to implement the program in August. He said China will be next fall semester's designation because of the upcoming

Gockel Symposium and The Chart's upcoming coverage of the transfer of power in Hong Kong from British to Chinese rule on June 30.

Leon said the concept of linking



Leon

fall semesters and activities concerning the lifestyles of a specific country was not entirely originated by Southern.

"I remember reading some time back about a college that named its semester after a country," he said. "But the idea stuck with me, because I thought this would be a good way of introducing an element of international education into the curriculum."

But Leon said the naming of both the fall and spring semesters after countries or regions would not be feasible.

"We would like to also name future fall semesters after other countries," he said. "Then, the idea was that we could do this every semester, but I am not so sure that from the standpoint of planning one can do this type of thing semester after semester."

TURN TO CHINA, PAGE 11

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Questions surround cheer team

By DEBORAH SOLOMON
MANAGING EDITOR

With 10 cheerleaders departing from the Missouri Southern cheerleading squad in the past 10 months, questions have been raised about the squad and its selection procedures.

Kim Frkovich, a squad co-captain until December, said although she enjoyed being on the team, she could not handle the negative feedback she was receiving from Linda Lunow, cheerleading sponsor.

"I loved being on the squad, but my dignity was more important than sticking out the season," she said. "I think that constructive criticism is good, but when all you hear is that you aren't doing good enough it tears you down rather than builds you up."

Lunow, who has been the sponsor since 1994, said she was not aware of any personal conflicts between her and the team. She



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

With 10 team members departing in the past 10 months, only eight cheerleaders remain on the team.

thought the 10 members did not stay on the team because of financial, grade, or medical problems.

"I'm not aware of any personality problems," Lunow said. "I think we have wonderful friendships and a

TURN TO CHEER, PAGE 11

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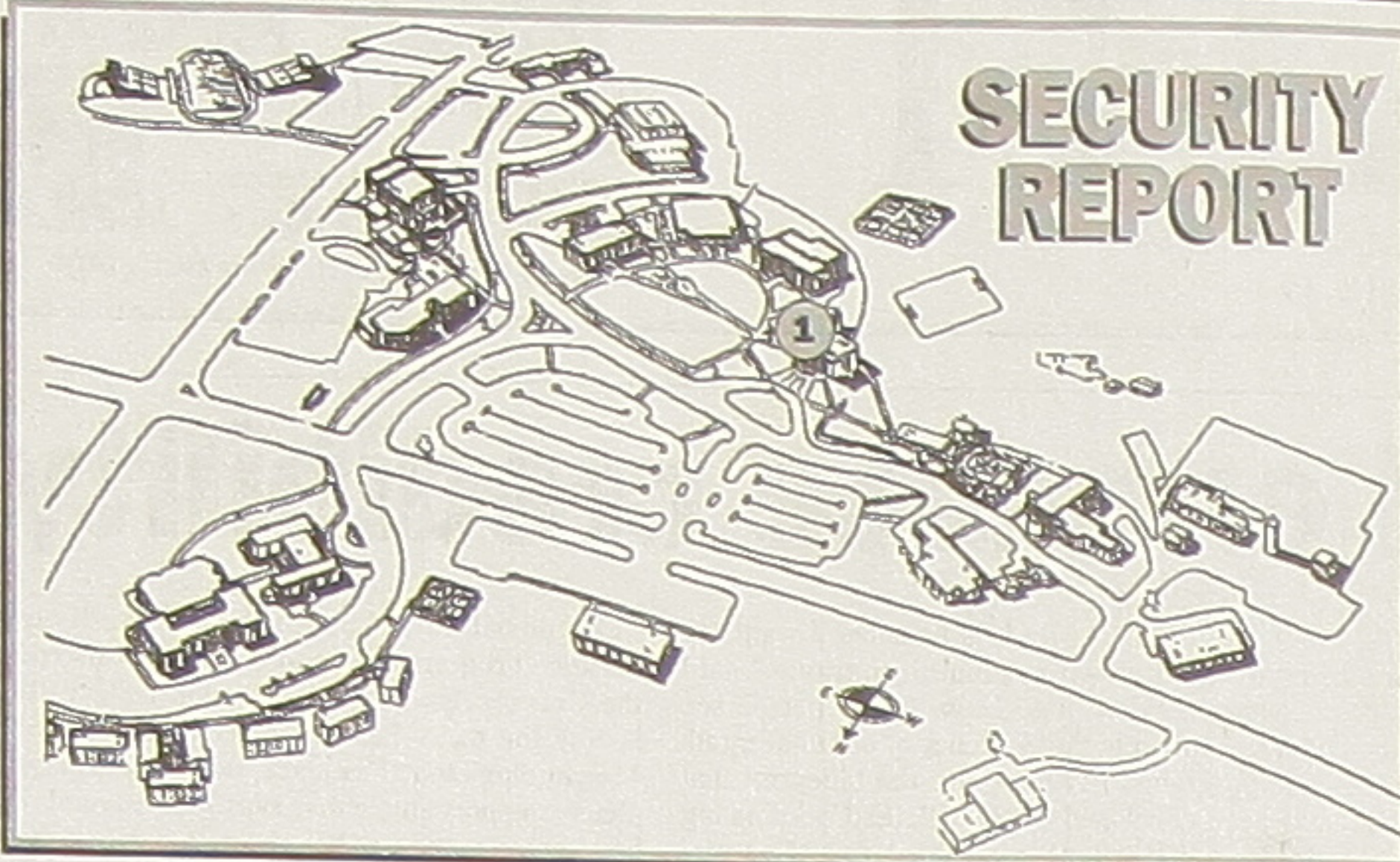
SECOND FRONT:

Due to the abundance of nasty weather in recent weeks, campus renovations are progressing slower than originally anticipated.....page 3

SPORTS:

After falling to both Emporia State and Northwest Missouri at home in earlier action this week, both Missouri Southern Lion and Lady Lion hoop squads pick up big MIAA conference wins versus Southwest Baptist Wednesday at Young Gymnasium.....page 10



SECURITY
REPORT

1 02/03/97 BSC 4 p.m. Jennifer Klouse, junior nursing applicant, reported her wallet missing from her book bag. She is not sure what building it was taken at or the exact time. The wallet contained personal items, an ID, credit card, checkbook, and a savings book. Klouse said her mother was contacting the bank to alert it of the incident and was advised to contact the credit card company. There is no suspect at this time.

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HARRY AND BERNIECE GOCKEL SYMPOSIUM

Lecture to focus on China

Four speakers
chosen to shed light
on Hong Kong topic

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Four speakers have been chosen to shed light on the upcoming transfer of Hong Kong over to Chinese rule during the first Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium.

The symposium, to be conducted by the institute for international studies and the department of social science, will be held at 7 p.m. April 14-15 in Webster Hall auditorium. It has been themed, "Hong Kong in Transition: The Transfer of Sovereignty to China."

At midnight on June 30, 1997, Hong Kong will no longer exist as a British colony. Instead, the commonwealth will be transferred over to Chinese control.

The speakers, all with varying political and educational backgrounds, will be defining some of the meanings of the the transfer during their addresses at the symposium.

Guest speakers lined up to

address the symposium on April 14 are Leslie Gelb, president of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Pulitzer Prize winner, and Paul Simon, former U.S. senator from Illinois and 1988 presidential candidate.

Richard Massa, director of the institute for international studies, described Simon as an "eloquent speaker" who expresses the need for "Americans to have concern for the world."

Speakers for April 15 are Richard Baum, professor of political science at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Richard Haass, director of foreign policy at the Brookings Institution.

The symposium originates from Harry Gockel, former instructor of history, economics, and geography and chair of the social science department at Joplin Junior College.

He and his wife, Berniece, willed approximately \$500,000 to the social science department with the stipulation that an international symposium be held, according to Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology.

Gockel came to Joplin Junior College in 1939 and was instrumental in the institution's evolution

into a four-year institution. Gubera said although Gockel retired from the College in 1972, "he always maintained an active interest in the College."

"At one time, he expressed the will to leave part of his personal estate to the College, but he died in 1984, before that was effectual," Gubera said.

Gubera said Berniece Gockel was actually the one who left the estate to the College.

Because of the Gockels' interest in international affairs and because they had embarked on several world travels, including a 58-day world tour in 1964, she left part of their personal estate with the intent that it be used for an international symposium.

Tickets will be required for admission to the symposium, but there will be no charge.

Tickets may be obtained in advance by mailing requests to the Institute of International Studies, Missouri Southern State College, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO 64801-1595.

Dr. Richard Miller, head of the social science department, and Gubera said they will require their students to attend the symposium. □

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Grand Cru

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Blonde Ale

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Germany

Aecht Schlenkerla Rauchbier

Aventinus Weizen-Doppelbock

Ayingen

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Ur-Weisse

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Theakson's Old Peculiar

Thomas Hardy Ale

Welsh Ale

Welsh Festival Ale

Young's

Oatmeal Stout

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Hexenbier Swiss Deinkel

VALENTINE'S DAY
DINNER AND DANCE

February 14th in BSC House of Lord's
Dinner at 7 p.m.
Dance from 8-12 p.m.

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ticket office.

Door Prizes!

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Chicken Cordon Bleu
Wild Rice
Green Beans
Cheese Cake

FEBRUARY 18th

One Man Show

"From the Gallows

to the Gavel"

Daryl Van Leer

transforms into six

historical figures.

Webster Hall

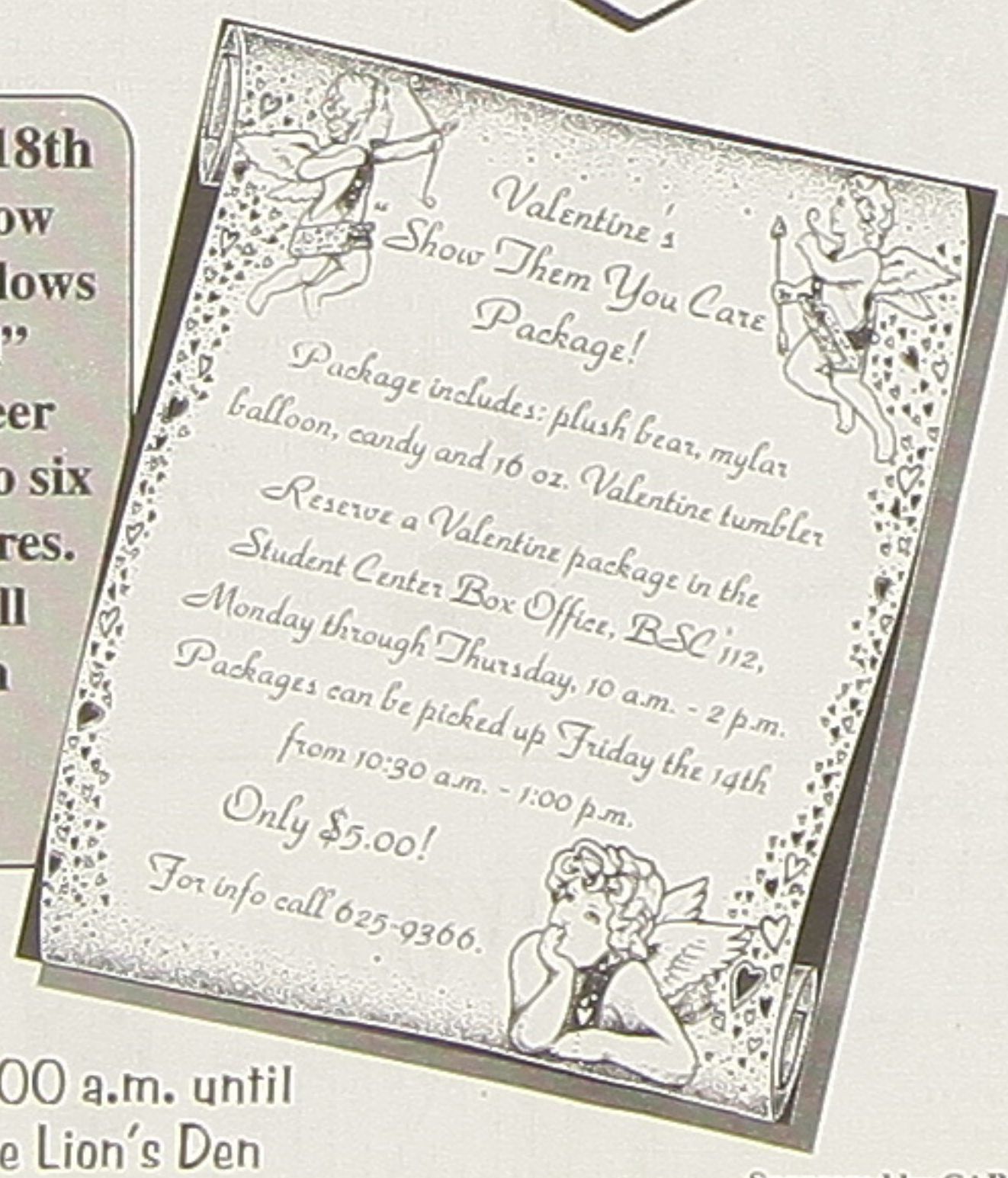
Auditorium

7:00 p.m.

FREE!

FREE
CUPCAKES

February 11th at 9:00 a.m. until
they're gone in the Lion's Den



Sponsored by CAB

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Construction resumes after cold spell

Lea Kungle Field additions on schedule for completion

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Projects intended to meet the growing needs of Missouri Southern are nearing completion as the temperatures outside begin to increase.

Bad weather has slowed completion of the addition to the Mills Anderson Justice Center. Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, said the completion date has fallen back approximately two weeks to Oct. 7, 1997.

It was expected to be completed by Sept. 22.

Tiede said the structural work was nearly finished and he expected the pouring of some of the concrete flooring soon.

R.E. Smith is under contract from Missouri Southern to handle the project.

"They have done most of the major projects around campus, with the exception of Webster Hall," Tiede said. "They handled the remodeling in Reynolds Hall six or seven years ago and the additions to both Reynolds and Matthews Halls."

Satterlee Plumbing is handling the installation of new chillers at Spiva Library.

"They are all in, but they aren't operational

yet," Tiede said. "There is still some piping left and some connections that need to be made to the cooling tower. So if we look at a timeline, we're probably looking at completion by the first of April."

Work around Lea Kungle Field is on schedule and construction is nearing the end, said Sallie Beard, women's athletic director.

Southern is adding a new clubhouse and another softball field with lights.

Beard said she expects the grass to be laid late in the spring semester and, weather permitting, the field to be playable in time for the 1998 season.

Tiede said much of the work on the clubhouse was done by Dalton-Killinger Construction Co. of Joplin, with the rest of the project completed by the National Guard.

Pat Lipira, head softball coach, said the additions are not only aesthetic but practical.

"The extra field and lights will allow us to play the majority of the games in our tournament (Pizza Hut/Ott Food Classic) at home," she said. "Right now we end up playing most of the games at over at Four Seasons (Sports Complex)."

Lipira said she would like to add evening games to the schedule when the lights are operational.

She said the lights will also help in scheduling practices. Late afternoon classes have created conflicts in scheduling practices.

"Ideally, night games would be really good



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Among the many projects going on at Missouri Southern are the improvements being made at Lea Kungle Field. The improvements include a clubhouse and a second softball field. Dalton-Killinger Construction Co. of Joplin is doing the work on the clubhouse.

for our fans," Lipira said. "We have a good following now, but with night or evening games we could bring even more. Some people miss a lot of work to come and see their daughters play in the day."

Tiede said the next big project the College would like to start is an addition to the library.

However, the project was rejected in the governor's budget two weeks ago. □

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

“He will transform himself in to six characters...”

Campus celebrates diversity

By DEBORAH SOLOMON
MANAGING EDITOR

To commemorate Black History Month, the Campus Activities Board is sponsoring a lecture with a variety of different faces—but with only one performer.

The act, "From the Gallows to the Gavel," by Darryl Van Leer, transforms the performer into six characters beginning with former slave Nat Turner and ending with former Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.

Van Leer will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18 in Webster Hall auditorium.

"He will transform himself into six characters from African-American history," said Julie Wiecken, CAB lectures chairperson. "He does

a lot of lectures during Black History Month; we are really lucky to have him."

The CAB is paying \$3,000 for Van Leer to come to Southern, plus hotel and travel expenses from Springfield.

Van Leer has performed at more than 150 colleges and universities and has received nominations for three national awards, including best lecturer and best performing artist for the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA).

"He won lecturer of the year, last year," Wiecken said. "I have heard a lot of positive comments from people who have seen him."

Van Leer started his television acting career by appearing on Black Entertainment Network's "Bobby Jones Gospel Show." □

Program honors Joplin native

By KIKI COFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

Quite often society looks over its collective shoulder and discovers that in its hasty move toward progression, something has been left behind.

Five years ago, some Missouri Southern English instructors decided local society had made a mistake.

Though Langston Hughes, a Joplin native considered to be one of the greatest 20th century poets, received recognition during his lifetime, his hometown surprisingly took more reserved steps toward the promotion of the local icon. Several years ago Joplin struggled with commemorating a street sign bearing Hughes' name.

In 1992, Dr. Henry Morgan, professor of English at Missouri Southern, worked with the former president of the Joplin chapter of the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to prepare the idea of a celebration honoring Hughes.

This wasn't a stretch for Morgan, who 15 years ago had brought well-known scholars from all over the United States to speak during a three-day seminar about Langston Hughes at Missouri Southern.

The joint effort sparked the annual dedication that is looking at its fifth year. This year, Morgan, Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English, and Arlise Bradley, co-chair of the Joplin NAACP, have worked together to present the Fifth Annual Langston Hughes Celebration at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21 in the Webster Hall auditorium.

A small cast of actors in the production "Langston and Company" will offer poetry and dramatic interpretation to members of the

TURN TO LANGSTON, PAGE 11

STUDENT SENATE

Body might start yearbook

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Members of the Student Senate are going to leave *Crossroads: The Magazine* alone, no longer pushing for it to become a yearbook again.

Senators formed a committee Wednesday night to begin looking into a CD-ROM yearbook to be put out by the New Light Communication Company in Joplin.

"We are doing this due to the survey we did during the Homecoming picnic that showed people to be happy with *Crossroads*," said Student Senate President Grant Miller. "We are doing this to satisfy those who want a yearbook."

"We are looking into possibilities, not to compete with *Crossroads*, to be done independently from any school organization," he said.

The committee is to consist of five senators: Spencer Beck, Miller, Josh Phillips, Sandy Fisk, and Jill Bever.

Brian Shively, owner of New Light Communication, spoke to the senators about the possibilities of a CD-ROM yearbook.

"After talking with several organizational leaders, I believe the information to provide a high-quality annual is available," he said.

In other business, the Senate announced that it had received \$11,000 from student fees, bringing its balance to \$13,950.

"That's about average," said Phillips, Senate treasurer. "We had a sum of about \$4,000 carry over from last semester that enabled us to give funding until we received this semester's funds."

The Sports Medicine Organization asked for and received \$576 to go to the District 5 Athletic Training Convention in Kansas City.

Student Senate FINANCES	
CURRENT BALANCE:	\$7,371.00
FEB. 5 REQUEST	
■ Sports Medicine—	Request: \$576 Received: \$576
■ Wesley Foundation—	Request: \$500 Received: \$500
■ Sigma Tau Delta—	Request: \$1,000 Received: \$1,000
Missouri Southern's Student Senate allows clubs and organizations made up of students to request up to \$1,000 to pay for group expenses.	

J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Monica Howard, adviser for the Wesley Foundation, explained the mission trip the group has planned to Marion, Va. The foundation requested and received \$500 for the trip.

Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society, requested and received \$1,000 to attend its national convention in Savannah, Ga.

The Senate has been planning a lobbying trip to Jefferson City Feb. 24-25.

"We go to Jeff City to meet the governor, lieutenant governor, and visit the House of Representatives," said Fisk, Senate secretary. "It is a good chance for us to see how the Missouri government runs." □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

February busy month for computer workshops

Several business and computer workshops are being offered by the Management Development Institute at Missouri Southern this month.

Microsoft Works will be offered Saturday, and Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows will be instructed Saturday, Feb. 15. Quicken for Windows will be offered Saturday, Feb. 22.

These Saturday workshops begin at 8:45 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. in Matthews Hall Room 204. The course will focus on marketing skills such as developing a marketing plan, identifying sales weaknesses, clarifying a marketing staff structure, and developing a marketing budget. Cost of this workshop is \$97.

Marketing for Manufacturers is a course offered from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 26, in Matthews Hall Room 204. The course will focus on marketing skills such as developing a marketing plan, identifying sales weaknesses, clarifying a marketing staff structure, and developing a marketing budget. Cost of this workshop is \$97.

A free pre-business workshop will be offered from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14 in Matthews Hall Room 102. This workshop is designed to assist participants in acquiring practical knowledge about how to evaluate the feasibility of a business idea.

For information about the workshops persons may call (417) 625-3128. □

European business topic of lecture on March 12

European business will be the topic of a free seminar sponsored by the International Trade Center at Missouri Southern on Wednesday, March 12.

"Improving Your Business With Europe" is the title of the seminar that will be held from 1:15 to 5:30 p.m. in Matthews Hall Room 102.

The seminar is designed for companies interested in doing business in Europe or those wanting to improve their existing business ties with Europe.

It will also provide general information on the European market, explore various strategies for doing business in Europe, explain how to get started, and address specific problems suggested by participating companies.

Companies are asked to define their specific situation and communicate that information to Dr. Bo Strombom, seminar presenter and assistant professor of international management and marketing.

Strombom has worked with the European market for 30 years and most recently served from 1979 to 1995 as group vice president for Castolin-Eutectic, a Swiss group located in Lusanne.

To register for the seminar or receive further information, interest persons should contact the ITC at (417) 625-9602 or 625-9538. □

Program showcases efforts of literacy groups

Two new efforts locally to help with basic literacy and education are the focus of an upcoming edition of Missouri Southern Television's "Newsmakers."

Marj Boudreaux, coordinator of the Joplin National Adult Literacy Action (NALA), and Dr. Jerry Williams, director of Missouri Southern's continuing education program, will be guests on the program.

Judy Stiles will moderate the discussion about adult literacy as host of the program.

The Joplin NALA program is beginning a workplace literacy effort to reach employers and workers. Southern is involved with Project First Step, an effort to extend basic General Education Degree (GED) study tapes to area communities via Southern Instructional Television.

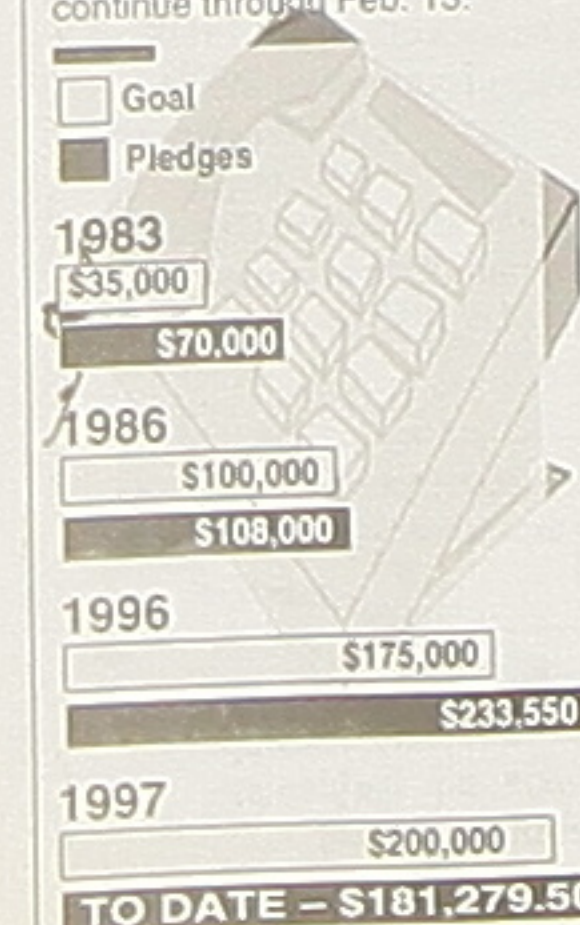
The program airs at 7:30 tonight on KOZI. □

PHON-A-THON

Fund-raiser closing in on goal

Phon-A-Thon

■ This year's fund-raiser has been successful so far and will continue through Feb. 13.



RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Bells were ringing constantly in the Alumni House Wednesday as the 15th annual Phon-A-Thon neared the end of the first week of calling.

Each time a pledge is raised during the fund-raiser, it is proclaimed by a ringing bell.

The latest cash count stood at \$181,279.50 as of 8 p.m. Wednesday, according to Sue Billingsly, director of the Missouri Southern Foundation.

The Phon-A-Thon ends on Feb. 13.

"Everything seems to be going great," Billingsly said. "Our goal is \$200,000, and we hope to reach that."

Jim Bray, head of the art department, said Wednesday was extremely productive. He and several of his students were calling to help raise pledges.

"This is a first time for us [in the art department]," he said. "Almost everyone here has been involved as recipients of Katherine Hyde scholarships."

"I called 18 of them (students), and everybody came."

Bray said some of the art student callers have received support from the Katherine Hyde Charitable Trust to study in Sweden.

"They are helping to support the Foundation, as they have been supported," he said. "This is their way of showing their appreciation to the people who granted them support."

Genessis Wilson, senior art major, said she will be one of the students to study abroad in Sweden.

"They're helping me to go to Sweden and are helping me to reach a goal I had set in my life to travel abroad," she said. "So when they asked us to help out, I was more than happy to." □



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Holly Trantham rings a bell at Missouri Southern's Alumni House along with several other softball players Tuesday night as they helped raise money during the annual Phon-A-Thon which ends Thursday, Feb. 13.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Sorority life lacks respect in all areas

I had always wanted to be in a sorority. Since I can remember, it was one of my main goals when I started college. So naturally, when I began my first semester last fall, I looked forward to rush week with anxious anticipation. After much deliberation I chose the sorority Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA).

I was ready for nearly anything. My mother's protest, the initiation ceremony, sorority

jokes, the whole nine yards.

However, what I was not ready for is why I said nearly anything. I had no idea people would have such an attitude toward those who "went Greek." I had always admired "Greeks" the



Michelle Conty
Asst. Arts Etc. Editor

same way I had admired candy strippers. I am a candy stripper now as well and have been for two years. The rudeness and nastiness is something I had not ever come across prior to my wearing my letters and my badge. People who were nice now shy away, and the hostile looks have made me cry. I could be talking to someone and they would be pleasant, but if I took off my jacket and their eyes were to fall upon the little gold pin displayed proudly over my heart, I could actually watch the metamorphosis they would undergo. They would suddenly become withdrawn and in a hurry to leave, as if I were contagious.

It took me awhile to get used to this behavior, combat it, and understand it. Finally, I left my badge at home and began asking questions, both to my fellow Greeks and non-Greek friends. The most common answers received boiled down to negative media attention. This hit me hard because I am majoring in mass communications. I want to be journalist — part of the media.

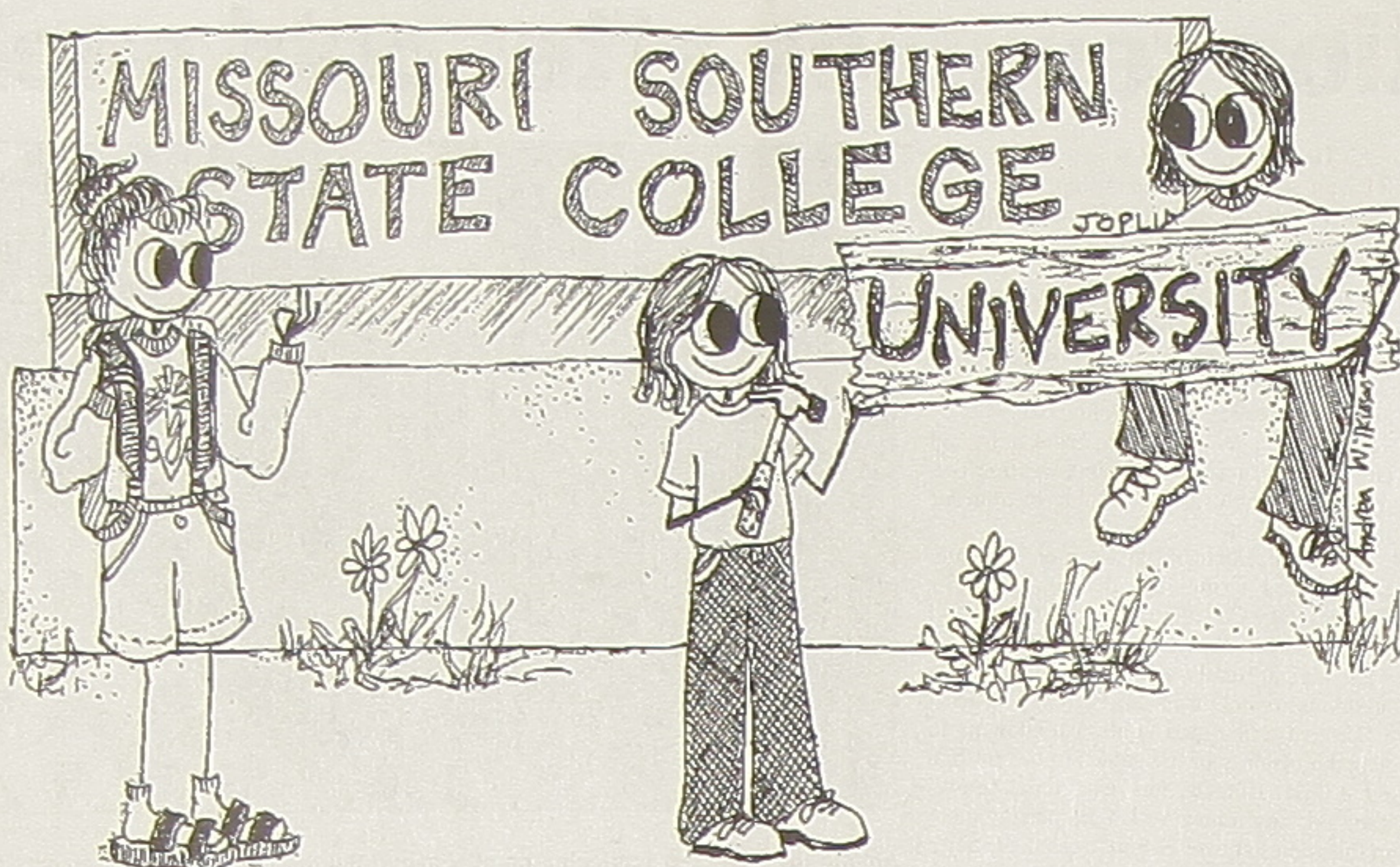
I would like to clear up many of the misconceptions about my sorority. My sisters and I are not the typical sorority girls of days gone by. We are not rude, rich, upity, holier-than-thou girls who were handed everything on a silver platter. We are not a group of easy, mean drunks just looking for the next party, the next man, or the next rushie to scare, harm, and humiliate. Instead, we are supportive; we care about each other and our community.

For Halloween we participated in Kids Day at the John Q. Hammons Trade Center. We dressed up and painted kids' faces and hair and handed out candy and party favors. We hold fund-raisers every semester to raise money for our philanthropy, the breast cancer foundation. None of the money we raise goes to the sorority; it all goes to help fight breast cancer.

I cannot speak for other sororities or for other ZTA chapters, but we have a strict policy against hazing. We cannot call our new members pledges — that would be hazing. And as for initiation, all I can say is it was not humiliating, cruel, or disgusting. It was a beautiful, special church service that I will hold dear in my memory for the rest of my days.

And for the record, anyone who rushes can leave at any point in time, regardless of whether they are initiated. Zeta is for life only if the lady chooses it to be, but she can leave whenever she wishes.

You are never alone when you are a Zeta. □



OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Burton's name-change bill should receive attention

What's in a name? That question poses a serious debate when put in the same context of whether Missouri Southern State College should lobby to change its name to Missouri Southern State University.

It has become apparent, as we head into the year 2000, that the term "college" is not held in the same regard as "university."

Dr. Julio Leon, College president, said one main aspect of changing Missouri Southern State College to University is not Southern's need to implement graduate programs, but the simple fact that the word "university" attracts more students. Attending a "university" rather than a "college" sounds more prestigious to the ear and is held in higher regard when imprinted upon a degree.

In fact, Leon said besides graduate programs that are offered by other institutions at Missouri Southern, the College and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education have absolutely no plans to implement Southern's own graduate degrees.

And we applaud that decision.

It has become apparent that our educational focus should

stay within the boundaries of undergraduate education.

There is a definite need for these types of institutions in Missouri, and Missouri Southern's focus on the student must stay clear.

But more importantly, Missouri Southern having the title of University would boost some relationships with other institutions around the world.

The fact that many high schools in foreign lands are called colleges can, at times, hinder our faculty's relations with a variety of colleagues across the globe.

Because of that simple fact, a name change seems like an honest and progressive solution.

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) will introduce a bill co-signed by other area legislators and lawmakers from St. Joseph proposing that both Southern and Missouri Western State College be given university status.

This will not affect any universities since neither institution will be able to initiate its own graduate programs.

This is not something that should result in partisan bickering; rather, this is for the betterment of two outstanding institutions of higher learning and their hard-working students and staff. □

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: ms-chart@mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

Do we need to teach proper etiquette before plays?

As I entered Taylor Auditorium Friday night, I excitedly handed my ticket over, received my stub, and was graciously ushered to my seating area. "94" was my seat number, and I looked for it, only to find that people were disregarding any arrangement, so I sat in "96" while my friend sat somewhere in the "80s." I was disappointed that people had no conception of how or where to seat themselves and that I could no longer experience the play with my classmate.

Anyway, the play must go on!

The lights dim, the music starts, and the actors rhythmically walk, limp, and hobble on stage. We are introduced to the characters, a team of psychiatric patients joined by one R.P. McMurphy, a criminal who thought he'd take the easy route out of his prison sentence. Instead, he was committed to a five-month stay at the institution, thinking he'd do his time and be released in the world again. He soon finds out that control is something Nurse Ratched takes seriously and will never give up. She will make the non-conforming conform using

any means necessary.

Meanwhile, I am engrossed in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. I had never seen it before, not even in film, and I was intrigued with it all. The stage had been set up in a mini, intimate theatre setting, the set furniture was perfectly matched to the time period (note: it is the same furniture that has been used in the Taylor lounge for years, even now), the set was sterile, and the lighting and audio cues were excellently displayed.

Then, a phone rang. Not once, but twice, and if that wasn't enough, the audience member who answered it continued his conversation right there in his seat. It was loud enough for me to hear opposite from him. I was furious! I didn't even hear what the actors had said. He took this first-time experience from me, as well as others. I was so amazed that the actors just kept on going; they didn't even miss a beat. I knew that they were just as or even more mad than I was.

How irresponsible, rude, and just plain ignorant. Who takes a phone to a perfor-

mance? I can say the same for pagers, beeping watches, people who carry on conversations or sing, crinkling candy wrappers or programs, latecomers who walk in front of you, and people who don't know where they should be sitting. Do we need to teach etiquette lessons before each performance? Hang signs? Confiscate items of distraction?

These people obviously care more about themselves and think they are better that they don't (for some reason) have to follow the rule of society. Get real. This might seem awfully minor to a great many of you, but I can assure you it is not. Students would not answer a phone in a class and continue a conversation, or people would not walk boldly down the aisle of a wedding making noise, so why here? It is called disruption. I condemn the incident and praise the wonderful production. *Cuckoo's Nest* was definitely worthy of its standing ovations.

Audrey LeBlanc
Freshman undecided major

IN PERSPECTIVE

Experience lends itself to many 'firsts'

Coming to the States from France was one of my dreams. I had several reasons to come here. One was to experience another kind of life, finish my studies, and enjoy my last year as a student.

I chose to leave to enjoy myself and see if America is really like I think it is.

When I learned I was coming to Joplin, Mo., I had no idea what to expect. So I left, and what did I find? A completely different kind of lifestyle and culture. My first reaction to all the new situations I met was to refer to my own values and culture. The result was always a negative attitude, saying that what we did back home was much better, more logical.... I had this attitude for a few days until I said to myself, if my country is that good, why did I leave? If I had kept that attitude, I would have probably left at the end of September.

So, I changed my attitude and decided to put my beliefs aside and try to understand and take things how they were. With this new attitude, I had many first times: first time I had a roommate, first time I was able to choose all my courses, first time I was carded.... Some of them really funny and others, less. The hardest for me is accepting all the rules and laws you have; to me it seems that you have a rule for everything and somebody to apply it. In France, it is much more relaxed.

Another thing that surprised me was the interest and time students spend at school. Here you have all sorts of clubs, activities, and sports that all go around the school, which we do not have in France. At home you spend as less time as you can at school. After classes you will find nobody around; you have no social activities or sports involving school. Here I joined the football team (I played football at home, too, but it's really different — like night and day), the marketing club, the International Club, and the party club, too (even if it's not official, I seem to find the members out every Saturday).

With all these activities, I met a lot of people, and I am having a great time. Here, everyone has been very helpful and friendly, and I would like to thank Nadine Schmidt (responsible for the ISEP program), coach Jon Lantz and his staff, my friends, and everyone else.

I encourage anyone to go abroad, especially to France or Europe. I know your country is big, and there are a lot of things to see. It is so different there, the culture, the people, the environment. It's a unique experience.

It will broaden your knowledge, give you a better job (I am a business major in sales and marketing back home, so such an experience will give me more job opportunities), allow you to see different things, and have a great time.

It's hard to leave, but it's like a jump; the first step is hard, and after, you enjoy every moment of it. I am having so much fun in traveling.

It is a great opportunity, and a virus you catch easily; once you start, it's hard to stay still so next year I will probably be in Scotland.

How many opportunities will you have to go abroad for a year once you have graduated?

Think about it now. MSSC offers many programs to help you out, so take advantage of it. □



Pascal Carrano
ISEP foreign exchange student

THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995)
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994)
MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94)

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POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Teachers team up to tackle civics class

Instructors provide diverse viewpoints in government class

By STEPHANIE WARD
EDUCATION EDITOR

Finding common ground and agreement are essential parts of government, although an occasional disagreement adds some zest. For these reasons, Annetta St. Clair and Dr. Gary Rader are team teaching three sections of U.S. State & Local Government at Missouri Southern this semester.

"I think (the students) benefit from having two separate perspectives on the issues, especially on the topic of politics," said Rader, a former professor of political science. "It's more convincing to them to see that we can disagree on how to interpret this."

"It just widens their own perspectives I think."

Rader, a Missouri Southern graduate, taught for the past 10 years in the University of Maryland European Division, at Spang Dahlem Air Base in Germany, near the cities of Trier and Bitburg, known for the famous Bitburger Beer. Rader said after the Berlin Wall came down, the military made changes and the University of Maryland began to reconfigure itself, prompting him to return to the United States.

Rader has always kept in touch with his former instructors, including St. Clair, associate professor of political science, who invited him to co-teach her government classes.

"This happens to be a semester when, because of my other classroom or outside of class duties, I'm out of the classroom a lot," she said. "So it works well for Gary to be able to step into the classroom when I'm gone."



TERESA BLAND/The Chart

After graduating from Missouri Southern, Dr. Gary Rader (left), came back to help teach political science classes with instructor Annetta St. Clair.

St. Clair said this would be a good opportunity for Rader to acclimate himself with civilian students while looking for a full-time position and provide continuity for her classes at the same time. She also said to make the continuity better, they decided to team teach.

"Teaching military students... it's a different student body than teaching here," Rader said. "Even though I was a student here, the students have changed in 20 years."

"So this has given me the opportunity to sort of ease back into the mainstream, teaching mainstream student bodies over here."

Rader said military classes are much smaller, enabling better student-teacher interaction. He also said students in the military tend to be more disciplined in their studies and concentration skills, which he attributes to basic training.

St. Clair and Rader both agree that co-teaching benefits them as well as the students.

"We don't often have a chance... to really see other people teach on a day-to-day basis and to hone their strengths," St. Clair said. "This allows me to look at the areas where Gary is much better in the classroom than I am, and it allows him to

draw the same thing from me."

"It works both ways; it's a mutually beneficial arrangement," Rader said.

Often, Rader was the only instructor for government classes on the Air Force base. He said now he benefits from having colleagues in his field to share ideas with and to learn from.

"We feed off each other, I think," Rader said. "That raises the level of enthusiasm that transmits itself to the students and then the students, I think, become also more interested."

Rader and St. Clair said they think the students are responding well to the two teaching together. Team

teaching has been done before at Southern, but is usually involves two instructors from different disciplines. St. Clair said this was the first time she knew of in which two instructors from the same discipline were team-teaching.

"In a government class in particular, one of the things that we stress is that government has to operate for all people, and so you have to find common ground," she said. "I think the two of us in the classroom together shows that it can be done. You can have differing viewpoints and yet you can compromise and you can do this." □

HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

SEMO plans year-long anniversary celebration

Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan and Donald Dickerson, president of the Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents, have agreed to serve as honorary co-chairs of a committee charged with planning Southeast's 125th anniversary to be celebrated beginning in fall 1998.

A 125th anniversary committee has been organized and will hold its first meeting shortly.

The committee will recommend a schedule of proposed events before the end of this semester that will commemorate Southeast's 125 years as an institution of higher learning.

The university's Board of Regents in September authorized Southeast President Dale Nitzschke to appoint a committee to execute and plan a year-long series of celebratory events and activities beginning in August 1998.

Southeast has evolved from its establishment in 1873 as the "Third District Normal School" to its present status as a provider of quality academic programs.

From its first graduating class of seven in 1875, Southeast has gone on to graduate about 55,000 students. □

Former NHS principal named NMSU dean

A Wheaton, Mo., native has been appointed dean of the college of education and human services at Northwest Missouri State University.

Dr. Max Ruhl, chairman of the department of educational leadership at Northwest, received the appointment on Jan. 22.

He replaces Dr. Joe Ryan, who resigned the deanship effective Dec. 31.

Ruhl, a graduate of Wheaton High School, served a number of years at Neosho High School, first as a social studies teacher then later as an assistant principal and principal.

He received an Ed.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1985 and joined Northwest's faculty two years later.

The college of education and human services is one of three Northwest academic colleges.

It includes the departments of educational leadership; curriculum and instruction; health, physical education, recreation and dance; psychology, sociology and counseling; and human environmental sciences. □

Truman acknowledges TJUP 10th anniversary

Truman State University is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its Thomas Jefferson University Press, established shortly after the university was designated the statewide liberal arts and sciences university.

In its first decade, TJUP has published more than 40 books in the humanities and social sciences and nearly as many in the Sixteenth Century Essays and Studies series.

Last year, the University Press branched out into trade books with alumna Betty Alt's *Weeping Violins* and this year published its first children's book, *Hurly and the Bone*, by former faculty member Farida Dahab.

TJUP's first book, *The Continuum*, by Herman Weyl, translated into English, sold out soon after its 1987 publication.

It was so popular that Dover Press purchased republishing rights.

Located on the first floor of McClain Hall at Truman State University, the Press now uses the latest Macintosh computers and other typesetting equipment to produce high quality camera-ready prints or electronic files that can go directly to negatives at the printer. □

We're looking for a few good leaders!

Announcing... Student Orientation Leader Position Openings for Fall 1997!

College orientation leaders are responsible for the instruction of 15-20 freshman students in an eight-week College Orientation class. Participation in Spring and Fall training sessions covering the course objectives is required to complete the program.

First-time leaders are eligible for two credit hours in Psych. 498 Leadership Training. Being an Orientation Leader also gives students valuable experience in public speaking, organization, and group facilitation--the very characteristics that employers seek in new employees!

To be considered, an applicant should be enrolled at MSSC and have completed 50 hours (including the current semester) with at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Selection is based upon leadership potential, academic standing, enthusiasm, and commitment to MSSC.

Individuals interested in applying can obtain an application and reference forms in room 114 of Heames Hall. Completed application materials are due in the Counseling Services Office by Friday, February 28, 1997. Personal interviews will be scheduled March 3-10 and Orientation Leaders will be announced Friday, March 14, 1997.

APPLY TODAY!

Questions regarding these positions should be directed to Susan Craig, Coordinator of Orientation, rm 114 Heames Hall.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT



TERESA BLAND/The Chart

Whitney Hudson, sophomore undecided major, studies for her German class in Missouri Southern's language lab located in Webster Hall.

Real-world interaction key to understanding

By SCOTT HAAR
STAFF WRITER

Current societal trends that have placed an emphasis on real-world application in the area of foreign language are setting the tone for some instructors at Missouri Southern.

Communicative competency, the ability to speak and use a language in various settings, is the desired end-product for Dr. Alan Burch, assistant professor of communications (Spanish).

"If a person gets off of a plane in San Juan, Mexico City, or Madrid, he or she should be able to use Spanish right away," he said.

Burch is one of many instructors who are now using both extensive conversation in class and traditional grammar-based study.

"People can flunk a grammar test, but are able to survive in the real world because they are competent in the everyday usage of a language," he said.

Burch says he would like to achieve a balance between gram-

matical rules and real-world usage in his classes.

"The real goal is the ability to interact," says Dr. Maryann Weber, associate professor of communications (French).

Weber said she believes students are beginning to think globally because the opportunity to travel abroad as students is becoming more available. The International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) has provided travel grants for students around the globe, including some at Southern.

"I think student have a better understanding of a language after completing the requirements of this department," said Steven Gurley, junior communications major.

Burch says as the world gets smaller, all languages and the marketplace will have to conform to a skills-oriented approach to learning. He says he is ready to help.

"I have a stake in creating an excellent end product," Burch said. "Our students will have something to show, not just a certificate." □

CAMPUS CALENDAR						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				6	7	8
9	10	11	12			

Today 6**11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—**

Koinonia Lunch, basement of Stegge Hall

12:20 p.m.—

Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 223

2:30 p.m.—

Missouri Southern's Student Coalition Against Child Abuse, Student lounge on 2nd floor of Webster Hall

6:30 p.m.—

Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge

7 p.m.—

Zeta Tau Alpha meeting, Panhellenic room

• Baptist Student Union, Thursday Night Together, BSU Building

Friday 7**11:00 a.m.—**

Chi Alpha meeting, Webster Hall, Room 115

7 p.m.—

Last day for sorority sign-up at BSC.

Saturday 8**5:30 p.m.—**

Missouri Southern Lady Lion basketball vs. Northwest Missouri in Maryville.

7:30 p.m.—

Missouri Southern Lion basketball vs. Northwest Missouri in Maryville.

Sunday 9**6 p.m.—**

Newman Club meeting, St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8th and Pearl

7 p.m.—

Sigma Pi meeting, Stegge Hall basement

• Alpha Sigma Alpha meeting, Panhellenic Room

7:30 p.m.—

Sorority rush night, Student Life Center

Monday 10**7 p.m.—**

Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building

9 p.m.—

On-Campus Bible Study, Apt. H-7, Stone Hall

Tuesday 11**Noon—**

Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, BSC, Room 313

12:20 p.m.—

College Republicans meeting, BSC, Room 311

12:20 p.m.—

Lambda Epsilon Chi meeting, Webster Hall, Room 225

2:15 p.m.—

Chi Alpha meeting, BSC, Room 311

7 p.m.—

Koinonia main meeting, College Heights Christian Church

Wednesday 12**Noon—**

Psychology Club, Taylor Hall, Room 123

5:30 p.m.—

Missouri Southern Lady Lion basketball vs. Missouri Western State College, Young Gymnasium

7:30 p.m.—

Missouri Southern Lion basketball vs. Missouri Western State College, Young Gymnasium

Attention

Do you have an announcement pertaining to a campus organization? If so, please contact Ginny at 625-9311.

PREVENTATIVE SERVICES



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Julia Foster (right), resident nurse, and Marilyn Jacobs (left), resident nurse, assist Susan Heaps, junior business major, in Kuhn Hall Tuesday.

New testing available

Campus health care makes various new services accessible

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In response to requests for additional health testing, action has now been taken to expand services in wellness and preventative measures for students.

Student health services has recently instituted a program offering physical exams, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing, HIV testing, health screening, and women's annual exams.

"Until now, everything has been geared toward illness," said Julia Foster, coordinator of health services. "But prevention is a very important part of wellness."

Marilyn Jacobs, certified women's health care nurse practitioner, said students often ask for these additional services. "We saw a

big need on campus, so we had been planning for a year to expand to meet the needs of the students," she said.

The new service is a not-for-profit plan, but students will be expected to pay for the testing services rendered.

"This is the first time we have ever charged for services," Foster said.

"It is not for profit, but to pay the cost of the provider, supplies, and equipment."

She said the health service center has an agreement set up with Freeman Hospitals and Health System because of the requests for the program.

"They provided us with an exam table and other equipment to help us expand our services."

Foster said most college students do not usually seek attention from a health care provider unless they are ill.

"We hope to do things to help keep them well."

Jacobs said along with the additional services, preventative edu-

cation will also be used during the clinic visits.

Foster and Jacobs stressed that the services are for both men and women.

"Sometimes men ask more questions about it than the women do," Jacobs said.

The times set aside for the new services are 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays.

"It is a separate service," Jacobs said. "We schedule [the testing] on the off times when sick people won't be there."

Foster said several students have responded to the new services, but she is still trying to spread the word. "We are phasing it in. We have seen a few students," she said. "We've sent flyers out to the residence halls, and we hope to reach commuter students through an article and flyers."

Foster and Jacobs said they were extremely excited about the new program.

"I think it will be a good program for the students," Jacobs said. □

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Accounting Club offers tax service

By HEATHER DEMIER
STAFF WRITER

As the tax season approaches once again, students from the school of business will be preparing income tax returns with help from the Internal Revenue Service.

The service will be provided by the IRS through the Accounting Club at no cost to students and members of the local community.

School of business students will be set up at the Joplin Public Library on Saturdays from 9:30 until noon, acting as volunteer income tax assistants. Their service began Feb. 1 and will continue until April 12.

"When people come to the door they are greeted by a coordinator who will evaluate them and make sure the tax return isn't too complicated," said Deana St. Clair, junior accounting major.

"From there the return will be prepared and then reviewed."

Some returns will be avoided due to degree of difficulty.

"We're trying to shy away from anyone that might be in some type of self-business or self-employment," St. Clair said.

"Complex tax returns should be taken to a certified public accountant," said Troy Royer, senior accounting major.

Royer, who was a volunteer last year, says the program is offered every spring and is an excellent learning experience for all students.

"Repetitiveness gives you quality, and the program allows us to get a taste of what we are looking at in our field of study," he said.

The program consists of first-year students who are the preparers and reviewers, and second-year students who act as coordinators.

"The coordinators are looked upon to answer the questions we have," St. Clair said. "We really respect them and depend on them to make sure we get the correct answers."

St. Clair said people planning to attend the program should bring all of their W-2 forms, any interest received, and last tax return (preferably from 1995).

"It's always better to bring too much than not enough," she said. □

STUDENT FEATURE



TERESA BLAND/The Chart

Jimmy Furgerson, a 21-year-old volunteer firefighter and Missouri Southern student, is seeking a permanent position.

Firefighter program teaches vital skills

By TERESA BLAND
STAFF WRITER

When he's not performing assistant managerial duties at a Carl Junction fast food restaurant, 21-year-old Jimmy Furgerson hangs out at the fire station, putting in his time as a volunteer firefighter.

Furgerson is hoping for a full-time job at a larger fire department and is now receiving the necessary training for state certification at Missouri Southern's Firefighter 1 and 2 class.

"I took the class to get a little more knowledge," he said. "I'm getting a better understanding of how fire works and learning specific firefighting techniques."

The Firefighter 1 and 2 course is a continuing education course that prepares firefighters to take the state firefighter 1 and 2 certification test.

"It goes hand-in-hand with what we're doing over in that area, because we already provide basic police training and all emergency medical service training for EMTs and paramedics," said Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of technology.

"This course goes right along with that public safety

concept," Spurlin said the school of technology was approached by area fire departments about providing the training.

"Crowder College currently offers the same class, but they were interested in us doing it," he said.

The course was put on the fall schedule. "We had somewhere between 20 and 25 people complete the course last semester," Spurlin said. "We thought we'd just do the one class, but we offered it again this semester and there are over 20 people in the class. "Apparently, there is a demand there."

The course meets for three hours each Monday and Wednesday evening.

"Since firefighters have to be certified EMT people also, we're offering the courses on alternate nights so, theoretically, a person can take for- feiting and EMT in one semester," Spurlin said. □

I took the class to get a little more knowledge. I'm getting a better understanding of how fire works.

Jimmy Furgerson
volunteer firefighter

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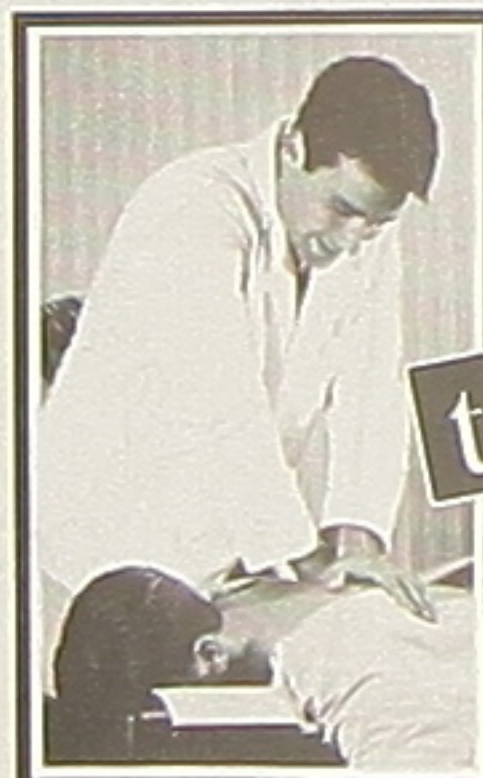


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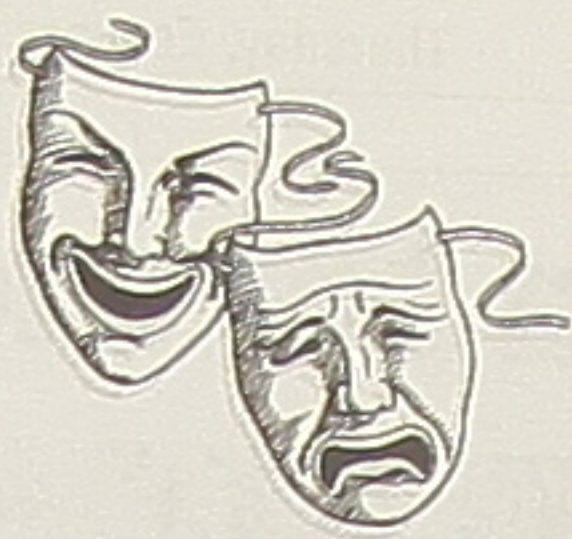
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Arts ETC.

Thursday, February 6, 1997

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MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Cleveland to grace the stage Feb. 13

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Clarinet will be the featured instrument for the evening when Anita Cleveland performs her senior recital Thursday, Feb. 13 in Webster Hall auditorium.

Cleveland, a music education major, will perform "Concerto for Clarinet" by Mozart, "Fantasy Pieces" by Schumann, and "Suite" by Krenk.

"They're some pieces I've been working on in my private clarinet lessons," Cleveland said. "As it came close to time to decide what to do, I talked with my instructor, Dr. (Chuck) Thelen, about what would be best to do in my recital — what would represent different forms and time periods of music."

Thelen suggested the pieces. Cleveland has been spending time in the music building practice rooms.

"I have a 2-year-old daughter (Jennifer) at home," she said, "so it's a little hard to get any practicing done at home."

Cleveland, a Carthage resident and native, is a member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society and Phi Eta Sigma.

In 1994, she was selected to play in the all-state collegiate band.

Cleveland will graduate in December. She hopes to find work



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

As she nears graduations, Anita Cleveland, senior music education major, will perform her senior recital Feb. 13 in Webster Hall auditorium.

in the Joplin area.

"I'd like to stay in southwest Missouri," she said. "My husband, (Chuck) works in Joplin and would like it if he could keep his job and I could find work around here."

Missouri Southern piano instructor Debbie Miles will accompany Cleveland during the recital.

"It's really great," Cleveland said. "She has been accompanying me on solos since I was in high

school. She's really, really good."

"It's fun," Miles said. "It's been great fun. Anita is a great student and she plays well."

"The show will be worth coming to see."

Cleveland's recital begins at 7:30 and, including intermission, should last about an hour.

A reception follows in Phinney Recital Hall, Room 222. Admission is free. □

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

First-time performance set for Southern music teacher

Vocal instructor to sing operatic, musical pieces

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ARTS EDITOR

As a newcomer to Missouri Southern, Dr. Susan K. Smith will present the audience gathered in Webster Hall auditorium Tuesday evening with her Southern operatic debut.

Smith, an assistant professor of music, will perform opera and musical theater selections from P.D.Q. Bach, Mozart, Menotti, Righini, Wolf, Buxtehude, and Debussy.

Smith began teaching at Southern last semester. The last four years were spent working on her doctorate at the University of Northern Colorado. Smith was also a teaching assistant and adjunct instructor. Before UNC, she taught at Gustavus Adolphus College, a private liberal arts college in Minnesota.

"I started (singing opera) in school in 1975, thinking I was going to be a high school choir teacher," Smith

said. "I got involved more with performance in undergrad school."

Her college instructors advised her to pursue a career in opera and education. "It's always nerve-racking the first time performing in a new venue," Smith said of her recital. "Where people have never heard you, you're an unknown commodity — you want to do your best. There's added pressure. It's a good time of the year to do it, but at the same time, it's difficult to try and get the semester started. You also have to divert as much time as you can to giving a performance."

Joining Smith as accompanists will be faculty members Henry Jones, piano; William Elliott, cello; Kexi Liu, violin; and Carol Cook, soprano, performing a duet with Smith.

"She's a wonderful teacher, a wonderful colleague, someone who is fun to work with and excellent at everything I've had the opportunity to work with her on," said Cook, instructor of music. □



Susan Smith

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Film examines psyche of rebellious farmers

By KATE WALTERS
STAFF WRITER

The lamentable tale of an 1890s rebellion of a group of Hungarian farmers makes its way to Missouri Southern's Film Society.

This award-winning movie, directed by Miklos Jancso, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall auditorium.

Red Psalm, won the Best Director's Prize at the 1972 Cannes Film Festival.

"Miklos Jancso was a really outstanding director of the 1960s and 70s," said Harrison Kash, assistant professor of chemistry and director of the Missouri Southern Film Society.

"He was very highly considered at that time."

"This film is enormously pictorial," he said.

"It is a very epic film about conflicts and undercurrents that go on between different farmers that get caught in a trap of conflict."

The film takes place entirely on a large plain with heroic peasants fighting soldiers and landowners to end feudalism.

"Most of his (Jancso's) films look at the psychological approach of freedom fighters," Kash said.

Jancso is most noted for his film style.

He uses a mobile camera so that scenes can be shot without cutting.

Admission is \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for senior citizens and students. □

CARTHAGE MUSIC AND THEATRE CLUB

Students gain support from area organization

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Students interested in music and theatre can gain experience and scholarships from the Carthage Music and Theatre Club.

The club's responsibilities include organizing fund-raisers for Stone's Throw Theatre.

CMTC is part of the Missouri Federated Music Club and the National Federated Music Club. The organization began in 1928 as the Carthage Music Club but was renamed Carthage Music and Theatre Club in 1980.

Bell, a member since 1973, is the state poetry chair and a member of The Devotees, an all-music club in Carthage.

CMTC meets the third Monday of every month.

"We usually have a pot-luck dinner also to make it more social," Bell said.

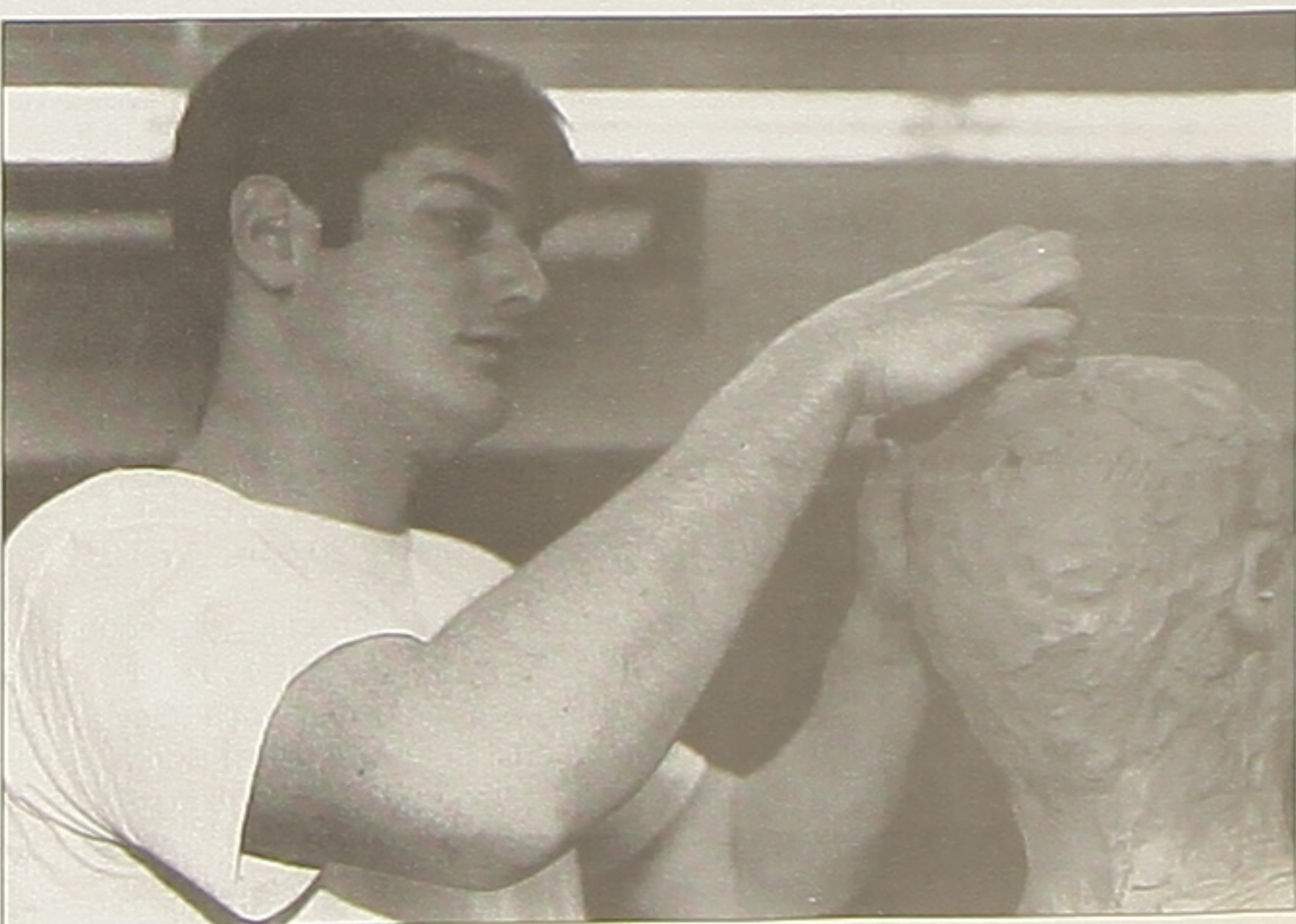
"We used to have musical performances at the meetings," she said. "We would be happy if anyone would like to practice their performances on us. I know many students have recitals coming up. They could get ready for their performances by performing for us."

The club offers scholarships to those interested in music and theatre. These scholarships are for colleges and universities.

"If there is anyone interested in performing for us or becoming involved in the club, we'd be happy to have them," she said. "I'm in and out all day, but they could leave a message on my answering machine and I'd get back to them."

Persons may call Bell at (417) 358-7268 for more information. □

IS IT ME?



MICHELLE CONTY/The Chart

Jeremy Butler, junior art education major, works on his sculpture in sculpting class in the Spiva Arts Center. Butler's project was to mold a bust of himself. Three levels of sculpting classes are held together.

Coming Attractions

On Campus



Recital

■ Feb. 11—Susan K. Smith performs in Webster Auditorium

TAYLOR AUDITORIUM

Mar. 1-2—Aesop's Fables

MATTHEWS AUDITORIUM

Foreign Films

Feb. 11—Red Psalm

Feb. 25—Barravento

WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

Feb. 11—Faculty Voice

Recital

Feb. 13—Senior Recital

Anita Cleveland, Clarinet

Feb. 16—Joplin Piano

Teachers Student Recital

Feb. 27—Jazz in Joplin

Joplin



■ Feb. 7—Hadden Sayers Band performs at the ByPass

CHAMPS

782-4944

Feb. 12—Bill Hailey and the

Comets

Feb. 14-15—Raising Kane

THE BYPASS

624-9095

Feb. 7—Hadden Sayers Band

Feb. 8—Live Comedy,

Monique-The Mistress of

Comedy

Feb. 12—Kenny Neal

Feb. 14—Don Shipp and

the Titanic Blues Band

Feb. 21—Walking on Einstein

Feb. 22—W.C. Clark

Feb. 28—Smokin' Joe Kubek

SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

623-0183

Jan. 17-Mar. 2—Photo Spiva

Mar. 14-Apr. 27—Spiva

Annual

JAVA HOUSE

659-8500

Feb. 14—Don Chaffer

MEMORIAL HALL

623-3254

Mar. 1—All For One

Kansas City

MEMORIAL HALL

Feb. 7—Marilyn Manson

Carthage

STONE'S THROW THEATRE

Feb. 6-8, 13-15—Dial "M" for Murder

REGIONAL
NEWS
BRIEFS

Murder investigation
ends in daring rescue

A 32-year-old Joplin man is in critical condition in St. John's Regional Medical Center after shooting himself when police attempted to arrest him early Friday for allegedly participating in the beating, stabbing, and shooting death of James Mayo in Joplin Sunday.

After the description of Mayo's stolen vehicle was broadcast on the evening news Thursday, Jan. 30, police received information about where the vehicle might be located and who might have been involved in the homicide.

At approximately 1:50 a.m. Friday, Joplin police officers, along with members of the Tri-State Major Case Squad, went to the home of the suspect's ex-wife at 619 Markwardt, in Joplin.

After surrounding the house, police knocked on the door and were greeted by the suspect's ex-wife.

Once it was indicated to police that the suspect was in the residence and two children were also on the premises, police motioned for her to come outside.

Police then heard the suspect, who was standing behind a wall in the small house, loading a cartridge into a pistol. Police grabbed the mother and pulled her outside.

Authorities then entered the residence and evacuated the two children while the suspect fired a shot from behind a closed bathroom door.

Officers fled the residence and immediately started firing tear gas into it.

After several minutes, officers entered the house and located the suspect who had shot himself in the upper-left chest. He was immediately taken to the hospital. □

Drug laboratory busted
inside Riviera Motel

A suspected methamphetamine lab was discovered Monday at the Riviera Motel, 3333 Range Line, in Joplin.

Police received a report of suspicious activity at the motel and raided a room at approximately 12:30 p.m., where they located chemicals and equipment believed to have been used in methamphetamine production.

Officers then arrested a 44-year-old man in connection with the room.

The man refused to cooperate with authorities during questioning, and faces felony drug manufacturing charges.

The case is currently being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Jasper County Task Force. □

Benefit luncheon to be
held at local church

The George Washington Carver Memorial Nursery School luncheon will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday.

The annual luncheon will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Sixth & Pearl, Joplin.

The benefit luncheon is held every year to help support the day care.

For \$3, a lunch of spaghetti, meatballs, dessert, and drink will be available.

People interested in attending should enter through the west doors.

All proceeds go to benefit George Washington Carver Memorial Nursery School, a non-profit organization.

In addition to the luncheon, the nursery school holds numerous other fund raisers throughout the year.

The school has been providing affordable day care for children since 1951.

For more information, persons may contact Jean Clark, director of George Washington Carver Memorial Nursery School, at 623-1325. □

MOVIE CINEMA MERGER

Buy-out frenzy spreads to area theater

Joplin Cinema 6,
Hollywood Theaters
complete merger

By AARON DESLATTE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Recent changes at Joplin Cinema 6 may have escaped detection by the movie-going populace, but on paper, they have launched the theater into a new market.

In August, the theater's parent company, Crown Cinema Corporation, located in Kansas City, agreed to merge with Dallas-based Hollywood Theaters. The merger, which took effect in November, nearly doubled the number of theater locations.

"In order to grow, we decided a partnership should be formed," said Craig Conley, general manager of Joplin Cinema 6. "It (the merger) gives us more locations which, in turn, gives us more buying power. Theaters are now finding out that bigger is better."

Conley says more screens at more locations make the company more attractive to Hollywood distributors, which increases the variety of films the theater can choose from as well as improving the quality of the product provided.

The improvements the theater

hopes to make in the near future range from increasing the products at the concession stand to providing DTS digital sound for all its screens.

"The days of mono sound for theaters is gone," Conley said. "Generally speaking, all the big pictures are in DTS."

However, some employees believe the "bigger is better" motto will backfire on other companies.

"There are many movie theater chains finding themselves in a battle for dominance in cities," said Jim Gunther, assistant manager of Joplin Cinema 6. "They (movie theater chains) are starting to tie up their finances in the battle for the biggest screens."

They are becoming gigantic with large overheads to attract the movie-going audience, and the movie-going audience is not expanding."

Gunther says due to the lack of audience expansion, the only growth in the industry comes from ticket price increases.

The cost of rapidly constructing 20- and 30-screen complexes is also forcing the national chains to sell their smaller theaters.

This business opportunity sparked the Hollywood theaters merger, and Gunther says additional smaller chains are getting into the act.

"A lot of these theaters are new,"



TIM WILSON/The Chart

The Joplin Cinema 6, located on 7th Street, merged with Dallas-based Hollywood Theatres in November.

he said. "Somebody's going to buy them."

The lack of audience expansion is also having an effect on movie makers, many of whom will begin to decrease the volume of films being produced.

"We're not getting more people to see the movies, and we're not getting many people to see more movies per year," Gunther said. "So what we're going to have to

do is go through a scale-back of movies being produced."

Gunther said this movie reduction may begin next year when Walt Disney plans to evaluate its movie production. A possible volume decrease has been discussed by the company.

"I think they (movie theater chains) are finding out that they are shooting themselves in the foot by pushing to build 20-plex-

es," Conley said. "There's not enough product being released by the studios to fill every screen."

"In the next decade, I think the companies that hold steady with 10- and 12-plexes will be the ones that hold business," Gunther said. "The ones that got greedy by building 20- and 30-plexes will find that they have six or seven movies to show at a time. It's already started." □

JOPLIN BUSINESS

Northpark Mall plans 25th anniversary celebration

By LINDA WHITED
STAFF WRITER

NORTH PARK MALL Events

- Feb. 12-Mar. 9 — Tax assistance, Wed. & Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Feb. 15 — Boy Scout Day
- Feb. 22-23 — Route 66 Speedway Auto Show
- Feb. 27-March 1 — KODE Outdoor Show
- March 7-9 — Sports Collectors Show
- March 14-29 — Easter Bunny Photos
- March 15-16 — 25th Anniversary event
- March 26-28 — Joplin Globe Literacy Project
- April 4-5 — KSN Home Show
- April 12 — Mo. Lottery Game Show
- April 7-17 — Joplin VIII Art Display
- April 16 — RSVP Volunteer Fair
- April 19-20 — Arteclera Festival
- April 26-27 — Area High School Woodwork Show

This summer, Northpark Mall will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Two months of festivities in July and August will entice shoppers' spending appetites. Community sponsorship and input is sought to facilitate the nostalgic tone. Highlighting the extended anniversary, a disco dance is scheduled to conclude the silver celebration.

Northpark's owner, Enterprise Asset Management Corporation of New York City, is planning the events, but Georgia Turner, marketing director for Northpark Mall, says she is not "pry to all the information yet."

Renovations of several Northpark Mall stores are also being planned.

"We are still in the negotiating stages," Turner said. The completed Sears expansion was the biggest of its kind the mall will receive this year.

Enhanced advertising and remodeling results in sales increases. Northpark's targeted 1997 sales improvement is 9 percent, Turner said.

The Gap, Gap Kids, The Shoe Department, Tilt-A-Family Fun Center, The Dollar Tree, and The Finish Line are new Northpark Mall attractions on the 1997 drawing board.

Existing stores will remodel when their lease is up, provided sales merit a refurbishment, Turner said.

Thirty to 40 percent of Northpark's sales are Joplin-generated, and 50 to 60 percent of the mall's sales come from outlying areas, Turner said.

Special anniversary event announcements are now being de-

66

The [Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce's] 'After Hours' [reception] is held in the Sears Court and allows businesses to exchange cards.

Georgia Turner
Director of Marketing/Northpark Mall

99

signed and created for July and August.

A Northpark scrapbook will turn shoppers' minds back to the early 1970s.

All participating stores at the mall will be sponsoring a 25 percent discount weekend.

Two, \$2,500 shopping sprees will be given away, serving as the lucky shoppers' anniversary gifts.

A Southern, Crowder College, and Southwest Missouri State University alumna, Turner lauds Northpark Mall's ultimate networking experience.

"The [Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce's] 'After Hours' [reception] is held in the Sears Court and allows businesses to exchange cards," she said. "Stores close and the networking lasts one hour later than normal business hours." □

BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS

Program hopes to enrich children

By KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

For many children, the ideal two-parent family is not a reality. The national Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America (BB/BSA) program has arrived in Joplin in hopes of enriching the lives of these kids.

"We hope to have an individual impact on the lives of kids from single-parent households," said Keith Moeller, chartered financial consultant for Northwestern Mutual Life/Baird.

Moeller became involved in BB/BSA through the Leadership Joplin program, an annual class offered by the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

As part of the class curriculum, participants were asked to select and take on a project for the community.

The class elected to bring the BB/BSA to the area. "It's so simple, but it's very profound in the lives of young people," Moeller said.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters will match adults, referred to as "bigs," with kids, called "littles," to spend three to five hours per week together.

Together, the "big" and "little" become integrated into each other's lives, doing such things as going to a game, washing the car, doing the laundry, or having a cookout.

Moeller said it's a casual relationship and it doesn't matter what the pair do; the goal is simply to give the child a friend.

According to a study in 1992 and 1993 of the BB/BSA program, "bigs" encourage values and increase motivation.

"Littles" are less likely to drop out or take drugs, and more likely to pay greater attention in school. The "bigs" get satisfaction from the relationship, too.

Moeller remembered the pleasure he took in his experiences working with and making an impact on youth.

He said those experiences are what makes him interested in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

"It's just tremendously rewarding to see them start to grow, to see them start to take seriously whatever values you might impart in that relationship," Moeller said.

Big Brothers and Sisters must go through a screening process, including a background check for the child's safety.

The screening also matches the adult and the child based on their likes and dislikes to ensure a successful relationship.

"If the match isn't working, then we figure out something else, but we hope that that will be a long-term match," Moeller said.

The relationship's progress is followed by a case worker until the "little" reaches 16.

From there the relationship can continue, but will no longer need supervision.

Anyone from college-age and older can become a Big Brother or Sister.

Those interested in being involved in the BB/BSA can call 626-9BIG for information on applying.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America hopes to be active by April 1, pending reception of non-profit status. □

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MISSOURI CONSTITUTION TEST

For students who need to take the test on the Missouri Constitution, please observe the following schedule.

Lecture
Tuesday, April 22, 1997 - 12:20 p.m. - WH 210

Test
Tuesday, April 29, 1997 - 12:20 p.m. - WH 210

All out-of-state students who plan to graduate in May, 1997, July, 1997 or December 1997 who have not taken U.S. Gov't. or State and Local Gov't. in a Missouri College should see Pat Martin, Room H-318 on or before April 17 to sign up to take the test.

Please note: Students taking this test must pay a \$ 5.00 fee to the Business Office H-210 prior to taking the test; and present your receipt to the instructor when you go to the test room.

AGRICULTURE

Hemp controversy crops up in Missouri

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — In the words of George Washington, "Make the most of the hemp seed — sow it everywhere." While Sen. Jerry Howard (D-Dexter) and Rep. Larry Thomason (D-Kennett) may not feel that strongly, they certainly want to try the crop in the bootheel of Missouri.

Both legislatures have filed bills, Senate Bill 79 and House Bill 283, which call for the research and development of possible uses for industrial hemp.

"Industrial hemp has value as an alternative crop for agriculture," Howard said.

Industrial hemp has many uses in today's society, according to literature provided by the Colorado Hemp Initiative Project online service. It is a renewable and sustainable resource and can be used to produce anything that currently comes from trees or petroleum. Some of the products are rope, paper, biodegradable plastics, tree-free fiber boards, fuel, and textiles.

"Indians used to kill buffalo and use all the parts," Thomason said. "The same is with hemp."

The oil, seed, stalk, and fiber from the hemp plant could be used to make anything from foods like granola and margarine to cosmetics or fuel, he said.

The crop has the potential to be a lucra-

tive one, with high estimates coming in around \$750 an acre, Thomason said. He is skeptical about that figure, but even if the true value is half that, it would still rival the area's main crop, cotton, which goes for \$200 an acre on a good year, he said.

"My question is, what is the use for this crop and do we have a commitment for it," said Col. Fred Mills, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. "Is there really and truly a commercial use for hemp?"

Currently, industrial hemp must be imported from countries that allow for the production of the plant. Russia, France, Canada, and the Netherlands all produce the crop, Howard said.

"I want to know how much we really import," Mills said. "And I also understand that foreign markets are subsidized."

In the bill, Howard also proposes that higher education facilities be given grants to conduct research on commercial uses for industrial hemp.

"We need to try to create controlled research pilots," Howard said, "to further determine if there is commercial and economic value." Howard emphasized that his bill has no connection to any organization that wants to legalize drugs.

"I don't want to be associated with anything but a mechanism for economic development," Howard said.

Hemp has not been grown legally in the United States since World War II, when it was needed for rope and cloth.

"The problem is the confusion between hemp and marijuana," Thomason explained. "They are two totally different animals; the THC content in hemp is so low, you would have to smoke a room full of it to have any effect."

Cannabis sativa L., commonly referred to as marijuana, has a THC content ranging from 3 to 15 percent, while hemp has less than 1 percent, according to Thomason.

THC is the psychoactive chemical that causes the high from marijuana, according to the initiative project.

There are spots where wild hemp is growing in ditches and should have the same THC as hemp, but chemical testing shows much of the wild plant has a high THC content, Mills said.

"There is no way to discern between industrial hemp and marijuana," Mills said, "except through a chemical test to determine THC content."

Thomason thinks education will be the key to getting the bills passed. He is continually looking for ways to help agriculture, and he said diversity of crops is a key to success.

"I just feel we need to look at all sides of this issue," Mills said, "and make sure the demand is really there." □

Modern uses for hemp

■ Missouri is considering passing a bill to approve studying the possible use of hemp.



SEED	Animal Feed, Protein-Rich Flour, Granola, Birdseed, Oil.
OIL	Soap, Cosmetics, Fuel, Lubricants, Margarine, Printing Inks.
STALK	Fiber, Hurd (see below).
FIBER	Denim, Carpets, Handbags, Socks, Rope, Caulking, Break Linings, Paper, Tarps, Diapers.
HURD	Cardboard, Insulation Material, Fiberboard, Cement Blocks, Mulch.

RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

AOL refunds customers; limits new advertising

America Online agreed last week to provide refunds to customers who had paid for unlimited Internet access and were frequently unable to get through. The refunds will be based on customers usage.

Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon, whose office received more than 100 complaints and phone calls from AOL subscribers regarding access problems, had approached the company with several other state attorneys.

"America Online put itself in a position of not being able to deliver the unlimited access it promised and that customers paid for," Nixon said. "Because so many subscribers were unable to get through, the state demanded that AOL make restitution where appropriate and also curtail its advertising until it can work out those technological problems."

For those customers who paid \$19.95 for purportedly "unlimited" access, AOL will offer a full refund to those who used less than two hours; a 50 percent refund to those who used more than two but less than eight hours; and a 25 percent refund if the customer used between eight and 15 hours.

For AOL customers who subscribed to a \$9.95 metered access plan for five hours, the company will offer a full refund to customers who used less than one hour and a 50 percent refund to those who used one to three hours. For customers who paid \$4.95 for a metered access three-hour plan, AOL will give a full refund to those who used less than one hour and a 50 percent refund to those who used between one to two hours.

Alternatively to the refunds, AOL has agreed to give one month's full service to any AOL user who complains about experiencing access difficulty during December 1996 or January 1997. This option may be received as opposed to a refund.

America Online will not advertise or offer its service until it can handle the demands, unless the adds clearly and conspicuously disclose limitations. AOL also has agreed to limit advertising during the month of February.

In addition to the refunds and the limits on advertising, AOL will begin to accept cancellations by phone, fax or mail. America Online currently only allows cancellation by telephone. □

Application for permit sparks public meeting

Simmons Foods Inc. has applied for a permit to continue to operate a wastewater treatment plant in Southwest City, Mo.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources will hold an availability session and public meeting Monday to hear comments on the draft state operating permit for Simmons Food Inc.

The meeting will be held in the Anderson Elementary Multi-Purpose Building, at the corner of Elm and Chapman, in Anderson. The availability session will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m., and the public meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Representatives from DNR's water pollution, air pollution, and technical assistance programs will be available to meet one-on-one with citizens during the availability session to discuss the proposed permit and answer questions. At the public meeting, the department will accept public comments and concerns about the draft state operating permit for the company.

Simmons Food is a poultry processing facility that operates a recently constructed wastewater treatment plant for its process water. The permit is required to set criteria for proper operation of the plant and that discharges of the treated water will be protective of the receiving waters.

For more information, people may contact DNR's Water Pollution Control Program at (573) 751-1300. □

THE LUNCH COMMITTEE



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

A group of girls from Grant Elementary School in Columbia, Mo., takes a break from a tour Tuesday on the steps of the Capitol.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House supports tax elimination

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Soon leaving the grocery store with a little more money in the pocket will be the norm, if the majority of the Missouri House of Representatives has its way.

House Speaker Steve Gaw (D-Moberly) last week filed House Bill 491, which carried the signatures of about 140 members of the 163-member House. The bill would eliminate the state's three-cent food sales tax.

Gov. Mel Carnahan said the elimination of the tax was one of his main objectives during his state of the state address last month.

"This bill gives working Missourians more purchasing power at the grocery store and provides immediate tax relief," Gaw said. "Working Missourians deserve this tax cut."

The reason for the tax cut is because the state is collecting more money in taxes than allowed by the Hancock Amendment, a constitutional revenue lid. Therefore, the government is required to return that money to the taxpayers.

The idea of eliminating the food tax is not a new one, however. The House Republican caucus presented an almost identical plan to the one filed last week, according to Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho).

"Last year it was one of our main issues," Marble said. "But no one would address it until the governor made his state of the state."

But not everyone agrees with food tax elimination as a means to return monies to the taxpayers of Missouri. Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) said this money should be returned only to the people who paid into it.

"In my opinion, I disagree with the reallocation of money," Singleton said. "It's a Robin Hood approach to doing business."

He would be supportive of eliminating the food sales tax in the future to prevent the surplus of funds from happening again, but for now he favors a four-part plan to return this money to Missouri taxpayers.

Singleton's plan would:

- Increase deductions to families, helping families and encouraging family units in Missouri.
- Give private pensioners in the

state the same tax deductions as are available to state and federal employees. This would create a level playing field for all retirees.

- Eliminate double taxation on federal money. Currently, Missourians pay state taxes on money to be paid toward federal taxes.

- Cut out the state inheritance tax on property tax.

"Personally, I would like to see more property tax relief," Singleton said. Property taxes are decided by county and only the small inheritance tax is statewide, he said.

Marble agreed that property taxes should be addressed in the near future and said this tax cut is only the tip of the iceberg.

"First of all, any removal of taxation is good. Period," Marble said. "We would be eliminating the entire state tax on food. All that would be left is local tax."

HB 491, which has an effective date of July 1, 1997, seems to have people on its side.

"The bill also has the full support of the governor's office," Gaw said. "We will be working with him closely to get this measure to his desk as soon as possible." □

INTERNET

Information super highway paves way through Capitol

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Missouri's General Assembly has gone surfing... on the Internet, that is. Access to the State Capitol via the World Wide Web has been available since January 1995.

"The Internet is a bold, new way to let people know what is going on in government," said Mark Hughes, Senate communications director.

The concept came about when the Capitol was in need of rewiring so that the House of Representatives and Senate could share and exchange information, Hughes said.

Before, the Senate and House each had their own internal network. When plans for the common wiring were in the works, the idea to add an Internet site seemed to be a natural development, said Chris Byrd, network systems for Senate data processing.

"The House and Senate are two halves of one branch of government," Hughes said. "The Internet is the most contemporary distinction of how they meet."

The site starts at a General Assembly home page and branches out to either the Senate or the House. From that point, a user may access anything from a legislator's biography and E-mail address to any bill's exact wording, summary, and current status.

"We try to keep the formats close," Byrd said. "But each page has its own look."

Area Legislators' Addresses



E-mail

REP. GARY BURTON (R-JOPLIN)
gburton@services.state.mo.us

REP. CHUCK SURFACE (R-JOPLIN)
csurface@services.state.mo.us

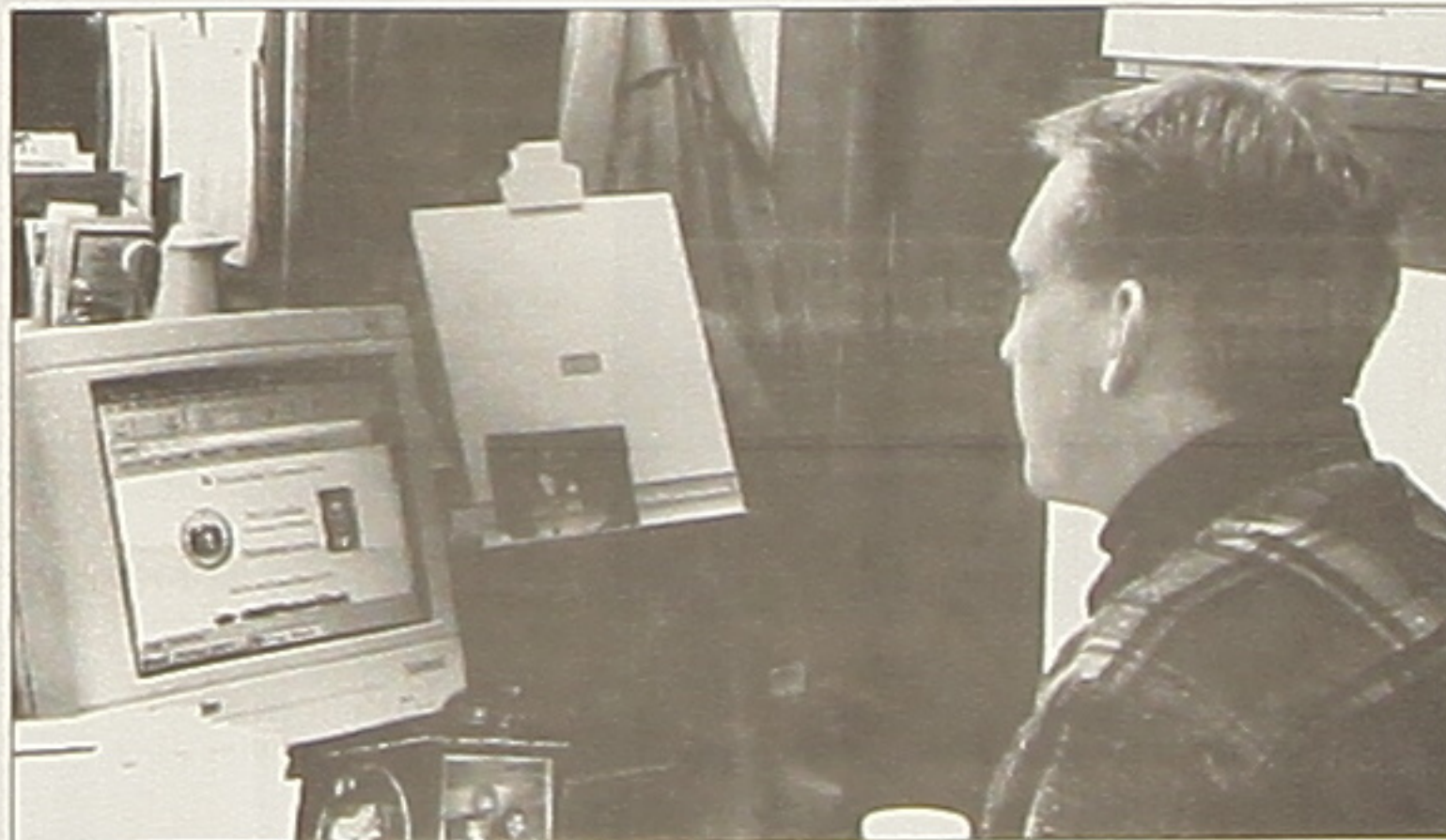
SEN. MARVIN SINGLETON (R-SENECA)
msing101@services.state.mo.us

REP. MARK ELLIOTT (R-CARL JUNCTION)
melliott@services.state.mo.us

RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

When the system was developed, special attention was given to ensure that work in the Capitol would not have to be duplicated to be added to the Internet. All bills, summaries, and other data are already typed into the mainframe computer. After that they simply have to be formatted to an Internet language format so computer users can read them off the Internet, according to Trish Adamson, programmer analyst.

"Basically, just about everyone in the House and Senate works on the Web site," Adamson said. "The data we use on the Web is the actual data they use. It just takes a few



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

Using the Internet is a daily activity for Kevin L. LaSalle, an intern for Rep. Phil Wannemacher (R-Springfield). LaSalle is a student at Southwest Missouri State University.

people to monitor what goes out there."

A disclaimer on bills taken from the Internet states that they cannot be quoted or cited. The reason for that is because a bill can change several times during a legislative session before it can get updated on the system, Byrd said.

"The page is updated at least twice a day," Adamson explained.

The majority of the cost of the program fell into the area of wiring the Capitol building, with the amount coming close to \$1 million, Hughes said. Since every office needs a computer for things other than the Internet, that was not figured as a direct expense.

The most recent addition to the Web site is the posting of senators' press releases on their bio page. Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) was the first senator to have a press release on the Web Jan. 24.

"I think more than anyone else, Sen. Singleton realized how important this was to the citizens of Missouri," Hughes said.

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) has gone a step further and has established his own web site at <http://www.janics.org/gary.htm>. His site is updated weekly and has a commentary section, complete political calendar, and links to several other political sites, including the Missouri state legislature, he said.

Several area representatives also have E-mail addresses. There is a complete list of E-mail accounts through the state home page at <http://www.state.mo.us>.

With an average of 6,000 hits a day, according to Hughes, the legislative home page seems to be an Internet success.

"The Internet is just a way for people to be a little more involved at the Capitol," Adamson said. □

Sports SCOPE
Soccer team should be high-caliber

Maybe it's just the luck of the draw, but Missouri Southern soccer coach Jim Cook has put together a national championship caliber team.

Points in fact:

- The Lions suffered the loss of just two players (one starter) to graduation.



Ryan Bronson
Associate Editor

■ 1995 all-region midfielder Todd Eaton is eligible again after missing last season. The Lions were 11-4-2 last season without Eaton, who led the Lions in scoring in 1995 with nine goals and four assists.

■ Southern returns a pair of double-digit scorers — forwards Jose Suarez from Ecuador and Ryan Ruper. Ruper, a Joplin graduate, finished his freshman season with nine goals and three assists while Suarez had nine goals and two assists.

■ On Wednesday, Cook signed Kickapoo High School star Kiley Cirillo, a stellar defenseman who helped the Chiefs to a third-place finish in Missouri this year. With Adam Bahr and Ryan Huntley returning to the starting lineup on defense and all-conference goalie Ben Butler returning for his second stint, the Lions should have a nearly impenetrable defense.

■ Redshirt freshman Jeff Jamaledine from Berlin, Germany, will challenge for a starting forward spot. According to Cook, Jamaledine has plenty of talent and the potential to lead the Lions in scoring.

■ Even if the Lions fall short in 1997, the Lions will lose only Eaton and possibly Suarez (an early graduate) entering the 1998 campaign.

The addition of Cirillo will make it difficult for any offensive opponent to get behind the Lion defense.

If anything, the Lions will be exciting to watch. They have a plethora of offensive players who can put the ball in the net.

To boot, Southern played as aggressive as any team in the conference last season, and Eaton's aggressive style of play will only add to the intimidation factor.

Truman State has virtually dominated the conference the past few years, edging Southern by one goal last year in Kirksville, Mo. The Bulldogs won't get away with a lucky victory this year.

Nothing guarantees a completely successful season for Southern, however, because the Lions must endure a difficult schedule. But the Lions, as talented as they are, will certainly set some steep goals for 1997.

Sure, beating every team in the conference would be a first, but why not beat every team in the conference by at least two goals?

Getting to the national tournament would be nice, but why not win it all?

Nobody can be sure which other teams in NCAA Division II soccer will be stacked, but one thing is for sure — Jim Cook is either really lucky or really good. You can figure that one out for yourself. □

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Olson crashes Bearcat hopes

Ray ignites team, Lions take control with 2nd-half surge

By JASON OWEN
SPORTS EDITOR

After posting a dismal 19 points in the first half, Missouri Southern (5-7 MIAA, 8-12 overall) went on to down Southwest Baptist (3-9, 8-10) 67-45 Wednesday night at Young Gymnasium.

Both teams had trouble finding the basket in the first half as Southern hit only 31 percent of its shots from the floor, and Southwest Baptist hit only 24 percent. The Lions led 19-14 at intermission.

"We just weren't aggressive enough in the first half," said head coach Robert Corn. "At halftime I told them that we had to come out more aggressive if we were going to really take control."

The Lions did just that as they shot 63 percent in the second half, holding the Bearcats to just 27 percent shooting.

One large reason they took control was 6-foot-9 sophomore center Matt Olson, who crashed the boards for 10 rebounds. Corn said Olson's play was a key for the Lion victory.

"We had to have somebody dominate on the boards, and Matt really stepped it up," he said. "SBU has been out rebounding teams by eight, and we ended up out rebounding them by four. We had to have a big night from him, and that is what he gave us."

Olson, who also had 10 points, said he enjoyed the challenge.

"It is my job, my duty," he said. "I really feel like this is going to be a good starting block for me and for the team."

The Lions, who seemed almost asleep in the first half, opened the

UPCOMING GAMES

■ Lions at Northwest Missouri, 7:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

■ Lions at Central Missouri, 7:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

second half in much the same fashion. At the 15:40 mark, however, a Greg Ray 3-pointer awakened the home team.

"That was a big 3-pointer," Corn said.

"I told them to just settle down and take their shots, and I knew that all it would take would be a couple of good shots to get us going. Greg Ray is our best 3-point shooter, so it was no surprise that he was the one to get us going."

Ray, who finished with a team-high 12 points, said he appreciated his coach's confidence.

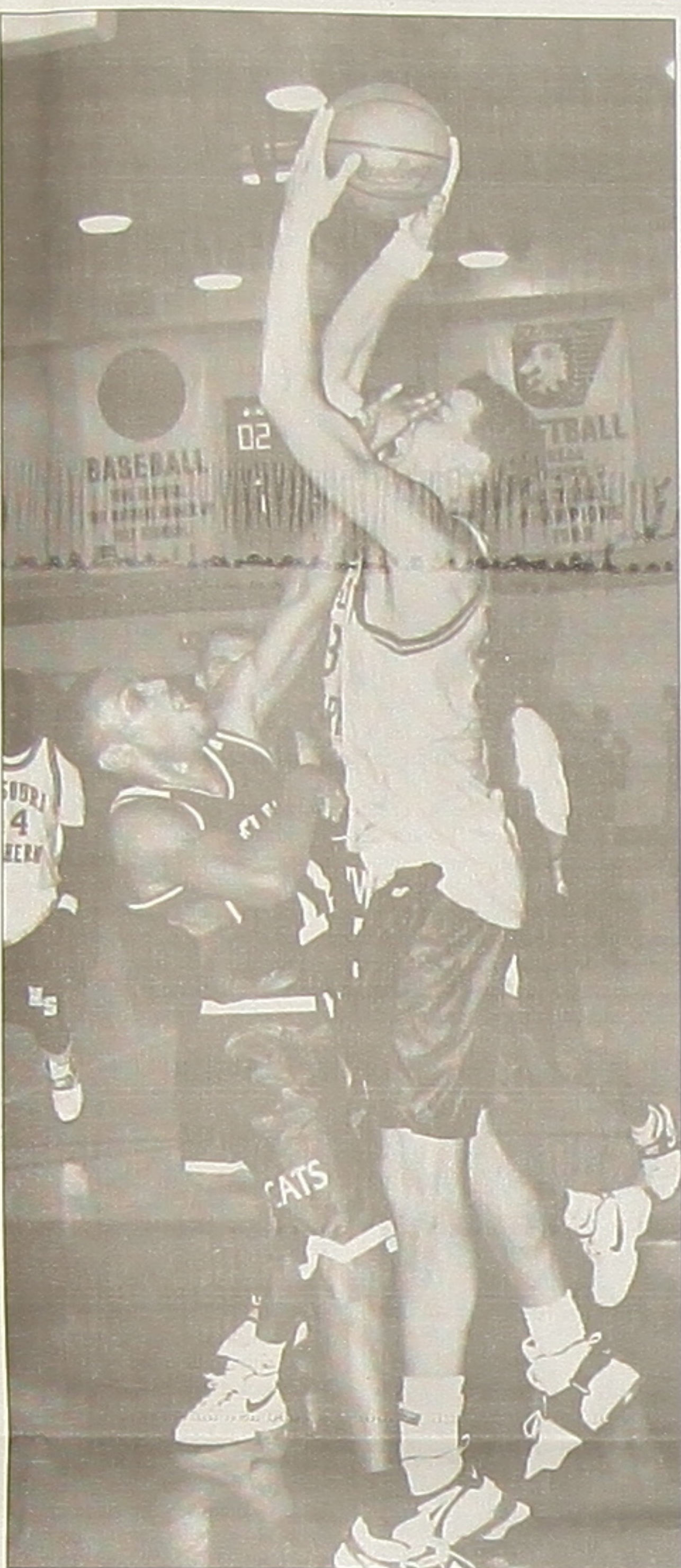
"It really means a lot to me to know that coach has that much confidence in me," he said.

"The guards really penetrated well in the second half, and that opened things up for me. I'm just glad I got the chance."

Senior guard Mario Phillips said he saw this as a possible rallying point for the season.

"We really played well tonight," he said. "This could give us real momentum going into the rest of the season."

The Lions take the court again at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Northwest Missouri State (6-6, 9-11). The Bearcats beat Southern 79-67 Monday night in Joplin. □



Sophomore center Matt Olson gets hit in the face during Monday night's loss to Northwest Missouri. No foul was called on the play.

INDOOR TRACK

National Division II meet lurks

By JOE ECKHOFF
STAFF WRITER

The NCAA Division II indoor track championships are coming up in two weeks, and Lion track stars are making strong bids to qualify.

Last weekend, Lion sprinter James Thrash achieved a provisional qualifying spot for the championships with a 6:45 time in the 55-meter dash.

Sonja Blacketer and Stephanie Wainscott were provisional qualifiers for the Lady Lions. Blacketer set a school record with her 18:04.23 finish in the 5,000-meter run, and Wainscott also set a school record after hurling the weight throw a distance of 45-1 3/4.

Provisional qualifying isn't an automatic bid to the championships. If there aren't enough athletes qualifying for an event, provisional runners with the best times will be allowed to compete.

Sprinter Darelle Simmons was involved in a car accident that kept him from performing at 100 percent at the Jayhawk Invitational. Overall, said coach Tom Rutledge, the Lions turned in a good weekend showing.

"I was real pleased with our effort," he said. "We still have to improve, but we faced good competition."

Doug Culver set a school weight throw record with a toss of 43-9 3/4.

The Lady Lions returned to compete at the University of Arkansas for the third consecutive weekend.

Winter temperatures have hurt the Lady Lions' training, but Vavra said it will improve with warmer weather.

Both teams will compete this weekend at Central Missouri State. □

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Lions get 'physical' with SBU Lady Bearcats

By JASON OWEN
SPORTS EDITOR



Junior KaTonya Samuels loses the ball in the paint against Northwest Missouri Monday night at home.

In what turned out to be a physical game Wednesday, the Missouri Southern (5-7 MIAA, 10-9 overall) Lady Lions walloped the Southwest Baptist (7-5, 13-7) Lady Bearcats 67-58.

Senior point guard Nicole Heinz, who finished with 13 points, closed the door on Southwest Baptist with a crucial 3-pointer at the 33-second mark. Heinz, a testament to the physical nature of this game, was hit in the face twice by opposing players' elbows and went down to the floor hard.

She said it was just what the Lady Lions expected.

"When we played them earlier in the year, they were just as physical," Heinz said. "Nothing has changed. I knew that when they came

down with the ball they would be swinging their elbows, so I just stepped up and took a couple for the team."

Head coach Carrie Kaifes said Heinz was just doing what she had to do.

"Nicole just stepped up and took it," she said. "She's just a tough player."

Kaifes said she was not surprised by the physical nature of the game.

"They are a good team," she said. "They come at you before you catch the ball and try to keep you from catching it. That's just good defense."

The Freeman Sports Medicine player of the game was junior forward Shelly Oliver. Oliver, who finished with a team-high 28 points, attributed her success to her teammates.

"The guards were just real

ly handling the ball well," she said. "They were able to find me in a position to score."

Southern was unable to get anything going in the first half, trailing all the way. The Lady Lions went to the locker room down 36-30.

The second half, however, was a different story.

After the Lady Lions took a 44-43 lead at the 13:37 mark, the lead changed hands eight times in seven minutes. Southern finally pulled ahead for good when Oliver knocked down a shot from the stripe for a 50-49 Lady Lion lead.

Kaifes said the difference in the halves was her team's shooting.

"We only shot 48 percent from the floor in the first half," she said. "We came out in the second half and shot 54 percent. When you

UPCOMING GAMES

■ Lady Lions at Northwest Missouri, 7:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

■ Lady Lions at Central Missouri, 7:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

improve your shooting like that, it makes it a different game.

"I knew we could do it. We just had to go in at halftime and make a few adjustments. We were able to execute them, and we got the win."

The Lady Lions will be in action again at 5:30 p.m. Saturday at Northwest Missouri State. □

Southern Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

MIAA Standings	MIAA Stats
Through Feb. 4 (Conf, Overall)	Scoring (per game)
1. Washburn 11-1, 16-6	1. Bule, Dan, Jr., WU - 24.1
2. Pittsburg State 9-3, 15-5	2. Turner, Orville, Sr., CMSU - 23.6
3. Central Missouri 8-4, 16-4	3. Keeler, Eric, Sr., MWSC - 19.7
4. Missouri Western 7-4, 13-6	4. Rivers, Antonio, Jr., CMSU - 19.1
5. Emporia State 6-6, 11-9	Rebounds (per game)
6. Northwest Missouri 6-6, 9-11	1. Pinder, Ian, Jr., SBU - 9.2
7. Missouri Southern 4-7, 7-12	2. Harkess, Scott, So., ESU - 8.6
8. Missouri-Rolla 4-8, 12-8	3. Bule, Dan, Jr., WU - 8.6
9. Truman State 4-8, 8-12	3-pointers made (per game)
10. Southwest Baptist 3-8, 8-9	1. Turner, Orville, Sr., CMSU - 3.2
11. Lincoln University 2-9, 4-15	2. Smith, Turner, Sr., UMR - 3.1
	3. Holloway, Tim, Sr., UMR - 2.9

Women's Basketball

MIAA Standings	Lady Lion Stats
Through Feb. 4 (Conf, Overall)	Field-Goal Percentage
1. Central Missouri 9-3, 15-5	1. Scott, Marie, Sr., 61
2. Missouri Western 8-3, 14-5	2. Oliver, Shelly, Jr., 52.6
3. Pittsburg State 8-4, 15-5	3. Samuels, KaTonya, Jr., 48.2
4. Washburn 8-4, 15-5	4. Heinz, Nicole, Sr., 37.6
5. Southwest Baptist 7-4, 13-6	Rebounds (per game)
6. Emporia State 7-5, 14-6	1. Scott, Marie, Sr., 10.3
7. Northwest Missouri 6-6, 10-10	2. Oliver, Shelly, Jr., 3.8
8. Missouri Southern 4-7, 9-9	3. Heinz, Nicole, Sr., 3.7
9. Missouri-Rolla 3-8, 7-12	3-point Percentage
10. Truman State 3-8, 7-12	1. Heinz, Nicole, Sr., 36.8
11. Lincoln University 0-11, 4-14	2. Samuels, KaTonya, Jr., 35.9
	3. Shaw, Mandy, Sr., 33.3

The numbers and facts every Lion fan should know.

This Week

Friday —
■ MSSC at Central Missouri Classic, 3 p.m., Warrensburg, Mo.

Saturday —
■ Lady Lions at Northwest Missouri, 5:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

■ Lions at Northwest Missouri, 7:30 p.m., Maryville, Mo.

■ Lions at Oklahoma, 1 p.m., Norman, Mo.

Wednesday —
■ Lady Lions vs. Missouri Western, 5:30 p.m., Young Gymnasium.

■ Lions vs. Missouri Western, 7:30 p.m., Young Gymnasium.

MIAA CONFERENCE

New commissioner optimistic about future

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Missouri Southern's basketball squads entertained more than the Northwest Missouri Bearcats and Southern fans at Monday night's contests.

Ralph McFillen, recently named commissioner of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, was on hand as both Bearcat teams beat the Southern squads.

McFillen was announced as the new commissioner Jan. 7. He will succeed Ken Jones, who has been the MIAA commissioner for 15 years, in July.

"In my opinion, this is one of the top NCAA Division II leagues in the country," McFillen said. "If you can come out No. 1 in this conference, you are a contender for a national title, and that excites me. I think it helps programs at this level."

McFillen was chosen from a candidate list of 60, according to an MIAA release.

"Ralph McFillen will be a wonderful

asset to the MIAA," said Dr. Ed Elliott, MIAA council chairman, in the release.

"He'll take the MIAA to an increased level of prominence in the NCAA."

At the start of the men's game Monday, McFillen was introduced to the crowd and presented with a Southern pen set by Jim Frazier, men's athletic director.

Southern also sponsored a reception for McFillen earlier in the day at Billingsly Student Center.

One issue McFillen did address was the possibility of the MIAA expanding into the

year 2000. He said with the absence of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who left the MIAA last year, the league is looking into adding any number of teams to the present 11. But McFillen said he had no certain programs in mind to join the MIAA in the near future.

"I don't see any specific problems with the league right now," he said.

"It is in good shape financially. It has a good number of schools. Expansion is something that we will discuss and is always something that I think you should

keep on the front burner.

"I think the league has been too compact as far as geographics over this period of time. But how much more we need to expand, we will have to look at."

Before coming to the MIAA, McFillen had been involved with athletic conferences like the NCAA Division I Metro Conference, where he was also commissioner from 1987 to 1995.

McFillen's other commissioner post was in the Division II Gulf South Conference from 1984 to 1987. □

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Paul, Fox leave Lion squad

Two players left the Missouri Southern men's basketball program last week in what was termed an "in-house problem." Junior center Todd Fox took the floor 16 times in a Lion uniform, averaging 4.6 points and four rebounds per game.

Ted Paul, junior forward, played in 15 games, averaging 5.2 points and 2.5 rebounds per game.

Neither player was available for comment.

"It's an in-house problem and we took care of it in-house," said Robert Corn, Southern men's head

basketball coach.

Corn said both players will retain their scholarships through the conclusion of the spring semester.

"We wish Ted and Todd the best of luck," Corn said. "We hope they take advantage of their educational opportunity." □

UNIVERSITY: Name change could ease many relations

From page 1

Southern offer bachelor-level programs only.

"There is a provision in the bill which states that even with the name change, Southern can only offer a master's degree in cooperation with other state universities," Burton explained.

Burton said in changing that provision he hoped much of the opposition would abate. If it does not get passed during this legislative session, he is ready to take this fight up again next year, perhaps with the support of the CBHE.

"I haven't been approached by the Board of Regents on taking

this up on the Senate side," Singleton said. "I will have to study the issue some more."

Leon had mentioned the College's interest in becoming a university when questioned about it during a presentation last week to the House appropriations committee regarding Southern's budget.

"From the standpoint of our international mission we are finding it difficult to establish contacts and relationships with universities in other parts of the world," Leon said. "There seems to be a little hesitation, because the assumption is we are not a university like they are. In many parts of the world, high schools

are referred to as colleges."

If the bill passes and both Southern and Missouri Western become universities, the only state college would be Harris-Stowe in St. Louis.

Burton said he is not opposed to Harris-Stowe being involved in the bill but he has never talked with the school about it.

"I think it is something that is needed," Leon said.

"I think there are many colleges that are changing their names from college to university, simply because they find themselves at a disadvantage in terms of their ability to attract students, who usually think a college is not as good as a university." □

CHINA: Semester theme will not include spring classes

From page 1

So perhaps every fall semester we are going to try to do it that way."

Leon said he hopes the introduction of a variety of lectures, courses, and activities concerning the Chinese culture and heritage will broaden a student's international horizon.

"We want it where everybody on the campus can get involved in highlighting that certain country," he said. "So that our students won't be able to help but be exposed, whether it is in a specific history class or a business lecture.

There will be all sorts of activities."

James Gray, dean of the school of business, said he plans to give the proposal serious consideration and hopes to highlight it throughout Matthews Hall in various ways.

"Any of our international courses will lean more toward the country chosen for the fall semester," Gray said.

Some specific activities or groups Leon said could be a part of the Chinese celebration are lectures, Chinese films featured in the international film festival, Chinese national athletic teams, and the world-renowned Chinese Acrobats

coming to campus.

"Things of this nature will highlight this next semester," Leon said.

"There are all sorts of things that we can foresee for this semester with an unlimited imagination. And if we are very successful in doing these types of things, then the average student graduating from Missouri Southern will have experienced studies from four separate parts of the world."

Leon said keeping the themes of fall semesters in sync with current events is one goal of international mission organizers. □

LANGSTON: Event to offer poetry, dramatic productions

From page 3

audience. Also featured in the program will be students from the Joplin North Middle School, who will perform a short play and chorus.

Senior theatre major Paris Smith will also perform, in addition to some surprise speakers. "Every year the event seems to get a little

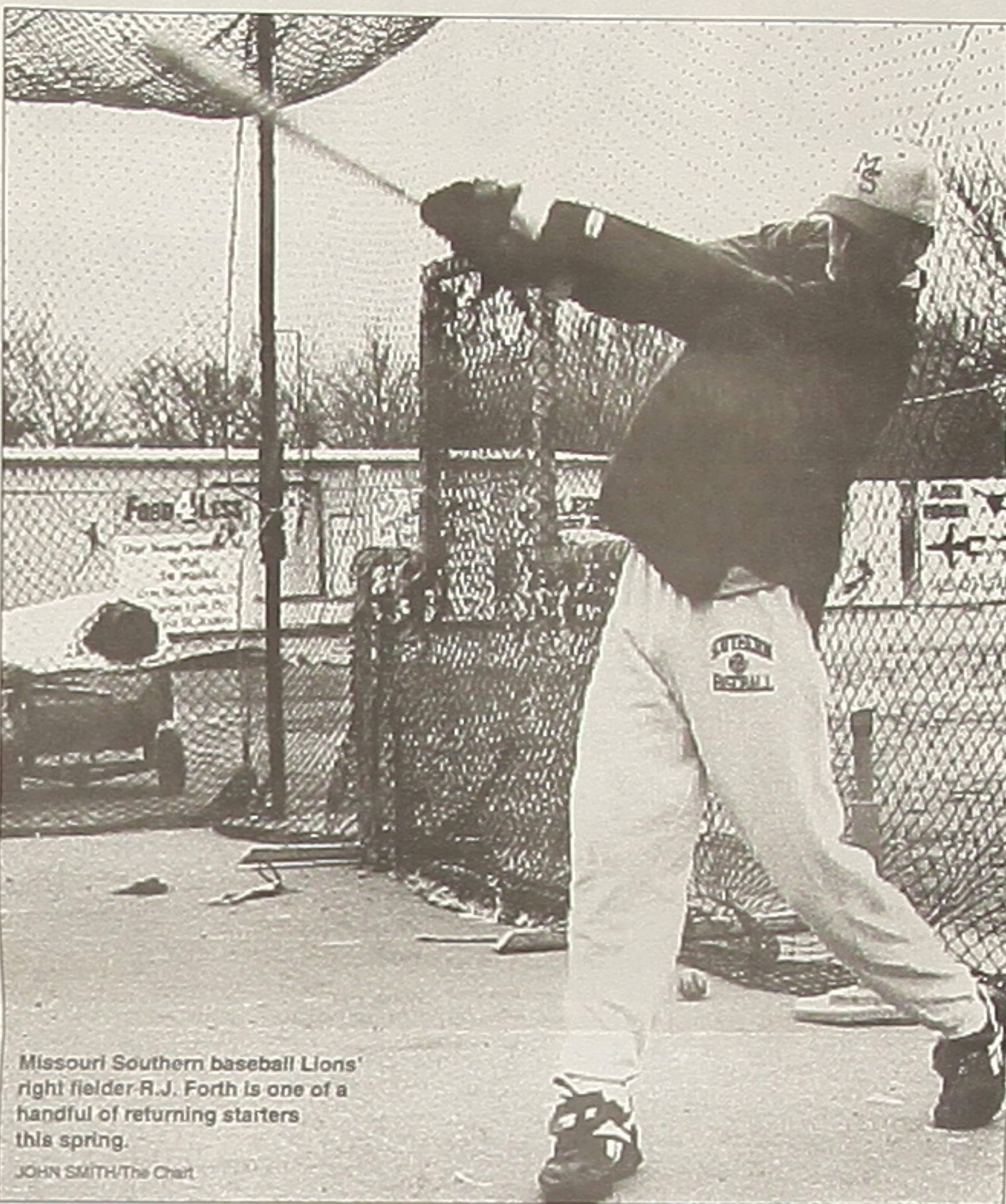
bigger of a response from students and the Joplin community," Walters said. But she also indicated that the students hadn't reflected the faster-growing interest of the once skeptical public.

"I'll be truthful," she said, "I'd like to see more involvement on the part of the students." Walters and Morgan agree that the local focus on Langston

Hughes provides a role model for children and adults of all races and cultures. "It doesn't seem to me that there are, at least in Joplin, very many public figures of different ethnic backgrounds for people to acknowledge," Walters said.

Some Missouri Southern students agreed that the lack of interest created a self-inflicted problem. □

BASEBALL



Missouri Southern baseball Lions' right fielder R.J. Forth is one of a handful of returning starters this spring.

JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Forth steps into leadership role

By TRAVIS CAGLE
STAFF WRITER

It has become apparent that junior right fielder R.J. Forth must step into a leadership role. With only a handful of returning starters coming back this spring to the baseball Lions, Forth and his fellow upperclassmates are in a position to produce — and produce big.

Forth, a Pittsburg, Kan., native, said he and his junior class teammates must show the younger players the ropes. He said the junior class has been together since arriving at Southern two years ago, and they know what is expected at the collegiate level of competition.

"I believe we're as good, if not better than, my freshman year team that went to regionals," Forth said. "I think if we show the younger players what kind of confidence it takes to play, we can go a long way this year."

Forth said he knows what it is like coming in as a freshman and feeling the immediate pressure that

can surround players at the collegiate level. The criminal justice major originally signed with Southern as a first baseman out of high school. He not only had to learn a brand new position, but he also had to do it while in the starting line-up.

"R.J. has worked extremely hard on his outfield," said Warren Turner, head baseball coach. "To my knowledge, he had never played in the outfield before coming here."

"He has worked really hard at all aspects of his game. He is a very experienced player and has the capability of being a strong leader."

Even though the expectations of Forth and his teammates are high this season, Forth believes the Lions are up to the task.

"If we can just stay consistent throughout the season and our pitching staff pitches the way I know they can, we could have a real good season," he said.

"The biggest key to this season will be our pitching staff. If they pitch the way they did in the first game, we will be an extremely tough team." □

CHEER: Lunow under scrutiny involving cheerleaders

From page 1

real respect for each other."

Sallie Beard, women's athletic director, said she was aware some team members had either quit or been dismissed from the squad, but thought the turnover was just an aberration. Beard said the athletic department is looking into the situation, but has not yet confirmed the cause of each cheerleader's departure.

"If we do identify a specific problem, we will try and address it," Beard said.

Although the team is down to eight members, it is still able to cheer the Lions on.

"It is a little more demanding on the eight, and having only eight members limits the stunts that they can do," Lunow said. "These kids are great, hard working, dedicated, and have a lot of fun."

Ex-cheerleader Ashley Schwab, a freshman nursing applicant, said cheerleading was an outlet for her and agreed with Lunow that it should be pleasurable.

"Usually you look for a sport that you enjoy, one that you can have fun doing," Schwab said. "I didn't like cheering when I quit. She (Lunow) pushed us too hard. It was nothing to stand for four to six hours before a game and then turn around and cheer."

Lunow said it was disturbing to lose any member of the squad.

"It has been frustrating for all of us to lose so many; it seemed like it was just one right after another," she said. "Everything you do depends on everybody being there all of the time. Even if somebody is sick you have to redo everything. It is so interdependent upon every single squad member being there."

Lunow said one mistake she made was bringing on three male cheerleaders without holding a try-out. "I had told the girls that if they knew any guys who used to cheer or had any background in cheering and who would be interested in working with the squad to come talk to me," she said. "We had three guys come and work with us. I put them on scholarship, paid for

their shoes, and two of them quit."

Some squad members cited financial problems as their reason for leaving the squad. But with 10 half-tuition scholarships per semester, the cheerleaders did have some financial assistance.

"This is costing kids scholarships; it is causing the squad to fall apart," said Brenda Schwab, Ashley Schwab's mother. "Pointing a finger at the kids is pointing it at the wrong people."

Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, said he has been contacted by another cheerleader's parent but referred the complaint to Beard.

"I have talked to Sallie (Beard), and she will be giving me a report on the cheerleaders at the end of the season," Tiede said.

Along with Frkovich and Schwab, other members of the squad who quit or were dismissed from the team are Brian Banks, Kris Chaffin, Mitch Lucas, Steven McCluney, Julie McKinney, Daniel O'Connell, Kelsey Parker, and Erica Stratton. □

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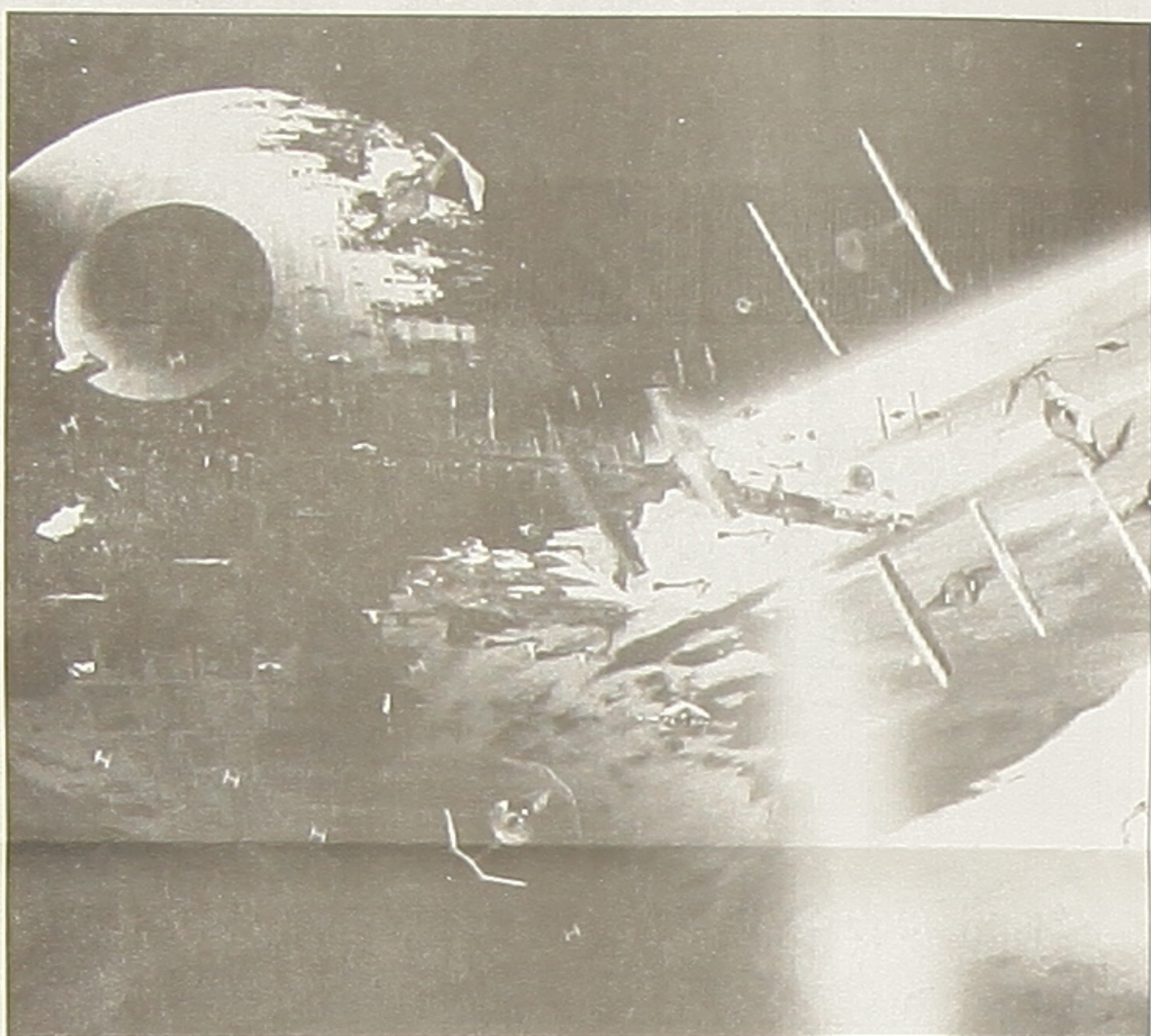
HOURS: 3 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

THE CHART IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Thursday, February 6, 1997



A long time ago, 20 years ago to be exact, George Lucas and Twentieth Century Fox released what would become the greatest movie of all time. Now, in 1997, the creators have brought back this magnificent saga — new, improved, and certain to entertain the second time around.



STAR WARS The Special Edition

BY BRIAN PALMER
STAFF WRITER

IN YOUR EYE

In 1977, *Star Wars* was released to the nation for the first time. It created waves then, so one can rest assured that the release of *Star Wars: the Special Edition* would create waves now.

I was not disappointed.

Just having this movie — this symbol of a generation — return to the big screen is an event of incredible magnitude in and of itself. To have our symbol improved is an event of cosmic proportions. Anyone who tried to get tickets Friday was well aware of that.

When the screen finally darkened, I was transported for a moment to 1977, to my younger years, when *Star Wars* was the most important thing in my life. Only this movie, on that screen, could do that.

The improvements that have been made to this work are indescribable. The quality is so good, I noticed things in the original footage I had not noticed before.

The sound quality is excellent. This is a real selling point, because John Williams' score was as much a part of *Star Wars* as Industrial Light and Magic's special effects.

Many scenes have been improved, using computer animation to add to existing footage. Some short scenes have been added — shots of the Jawa's sandcrawler actually moving, shots of stormtroopers riding giant lizards, and shots of some strange things going on at Mos Eisley spaceport.

One of the most fantastic new shots is the Millennium Falcon blasting off from Mos Eisley.

The original version had a shot from ground level of the Falcon streaking away. The new version contains a shot from overhead with the Falcon rising and turning before it blasts away.

One thing that always bothered me about the original version was the explosion of Alderaan. In this version, both that explosion and the explosion of the Death Star at the end of the film have been improved. They are reminiscent of the explosion of Praxis in *Star Trek VI* but visually stunning nonetheless.

Most of the improvements have been made to the final battle scene in and around the Death Star. X-wings and TIE fighters race around the camera using powerful angles not previously possible with the blue-screen model shots used in 1977. Director George Lucas has utilized computer animation to its fullest; he has made a strong movie even stronger.

Of three scenes that never made the original version — two with Luke Skywalker and his friend Biggs and one with Han Solo and Jabba the Hut — only the scene with Jabba is returned to the Special Edition. It is an entertaining scene with interesting computer graphics, and I am glad to see it returned to the film, because it does set up the later story.

Some purists may be disappointed in this version, but I am not. I am happy to see the movie done the way it was intended. □



Photos courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

